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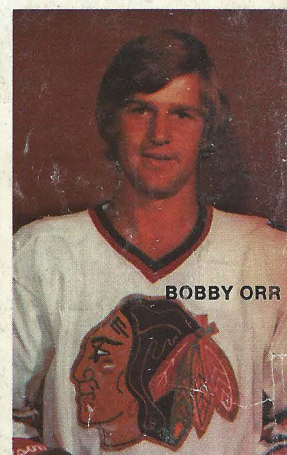
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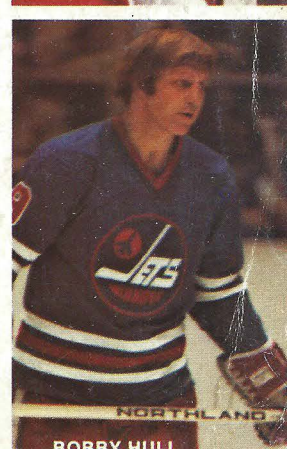
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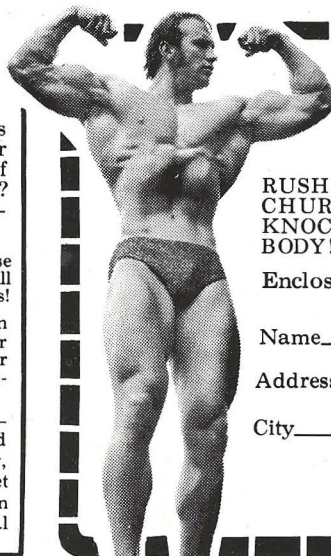
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"MONTREAL'S ALL-TIME TEAMS: Were any classier than the Class of '76?'"



Happy Habs gather around the Stanley Cup after downing the Flyers last May.

By CHARLIE HALPIN

Most sports people will tell you comparisons are odious. But inevitably they crop up when you start putting the past with the present. After the Montreal Canadiens won their 19th Stanley Cup this past spring, the reaction to their near-flawless conquest bordered not on how great a hockey machine they are, but how they compared with past Montreal cup winners.

The fact that the peerless Canadiens boldly put defense ahead of offense in lifting the cup from the Philadelphia Flyers didn't seem to matter. Or that they had won 12 of 13 playoff games in a near record performance or even

that they had succeeded by charting a deliberate course to the championship—systematically putting the emphasis on fewer goals-against; the Vezina Trophy their ultimate goal. It was inevitable then that the 1975-76 champions, great as they are, would be compared to past Canadiens' teams. As the cup historians pointed out, the 'Flying Frenchmen' consumed much of the space in the NHL's Stanley Cup fact book down through the years and the Habs were in the vanguard of the first cup winning teams. They had won as early as 1915-16 and in the ensuing 60 years, they had etched their fabled name on the cup an additional 18 times to rank as the New York

Yankees of the hockey world.

Some, like NHL president Clarence Campbell, placed them on a plateau similar to the five-time champion Canadiens' teams of the thriving 50's and the great Detroit Red Wings' aggregation of the early fifties that went the current Canadiens one better by cornering the cup in 8 straight games—a mark that has withstood the challenge of time.

Campbell, who has seen them all in his 30 years of presiding at cup presentations, cited the Canadiens' feat of winning 12 of 13 games as the mark of a great champion.

"Their achievement in winning 12 of their 13 games was truly fantastic," said Campbell. "They have the skating speed of the old time teams and much more size, especially on defense, than the early Canadiens' teams that won five in a row or the great Detroit team in the early fifties that won 8 straight games."

Islanders' Al Arbour was even more emphatic than Shero. The New York coach predicted a long run at the top for the Canadiens. "They have a great team. Montreal will win the cup or be right in there for the next 10 years," observed Arbour.

However, not all of the Canadiens' present crop of stars agreed that the new cup champs were the greatest. Goaler Ken Dryden commented it was the best of the three championship teams (1971, 1973 and 1976) he performed on. But defenseman Serge Savard said he preferred the 1968 and 1969 teams that mesmerized the expansionist St. Louis Blues for two years in the cup final.

The Habs of that era included Jean Beliveau, Jacques Laperriere, J.C. Tremblay, Terry Harper, Gump Worsley, Rogie Vachon, Ted Harris, Claude Provost, Henri Richard, Bobby Rousseau, John Ferguson and a fellow named Serge Savard, who was a relative newcomer to the NHL wars when the Habs won in 1967-68.

Savard's feeling was that the Canadiens were the complete hockey club in those particular years. He said he could never forget the defensive performance put on by Provost in both cup years as he handled all the big skaters on the opposing teams by shadowing them on the ice.

Still others couldn't overlook the championship teams of the past that brought the time-honored cup to Montreal. The exciting 1956-60 Canadiens were truly a dominant force in the NHL and the fact they were the only team in history to win the cup five successive times, can be attributed to two things—the coaching prowess of Toe Blake, and an incomparable collection of hockey greats.

Big names like Jacques Plante,

Doug Harvey, Beliveau, Bernard Geoffrion, Dickie Moore, Henri and Maurice Richard, Jean-Guy Talbot, Tom Johnson, Ralph Backstrom, just to mention a few, made the Canadiens the scourge of the fifties.

Plante and the late Terry Sawchuk were probably the greatest playoff goalers of all time and it is doubtful that any of today's netminders compared with the two goaling giants. Harvey was the premier NHL defenseman of that circa and a major force in Canadiens' five straight cup wins. Richard, Moore and Geoffrion were all electrifying scorers who overshadowed the modern day sharpshooters, according to the old time hockey buffs.

But in spite of a trip back through Cup history extolling the greats of the past, most everyone was extremely impressed with the 1976 Canadiens. Their all-around determination, finesse and supreme confidence in their approach to winning the Cup proved to be the right formula.

After a two-year hold on the Cup, the Philadelphia Flyers, attempting to become the first team since the 1964 Toronto Leafs won the cup three times in a row, wilted before the relentless Canadiens and the outcome was really never in doubt.

True, the Canadiens didn't overpower the Flyers over the course of the regular season but their momentum in the stretch that carried over into the playoffs, proved insurmountable for the Broad Street Bullies. The Flyers entered the Cup final a hurt hockey club and it didn't take long to show on the ice as the Canadiens poured it on, winning two games, including the Cup wrap-up, on Spectrum ice where the Flyers' swagger made them nearly invincible



Big Larry Robinson gets in the way of Bobby Clarke as Ken Dryden clears the puck. over the past few years.

Canadiens meshed a solid, four-line offense with a compelling and highly mobile defense to take the Cup away from the Flyers. Philadelphia fans were shocked by the turnabout even though they stood collectively and gave the Montrealers a standing ovation. The Canadiens, on the other hand were elated. Habs' team leader, Pete Mahovlich, called the win "the best. We wanted it badly. It was super winning the way we did. Everyone deserved credit. It was a great team effort," said Mahovlich in an emotional post-game interview.

Canadiens' coach Scotty Bowman savored the victory. Scotty, who often doesn't receive the credit he so richly deserves, was convinced the turning points were not losing a playoff game

at home and the fact the Canadiens were able to overpower the tired Flyers with fresh hands (he used four lines in the playoffs). But it would have been foolhardy for Bowman not to lay the credit for the cup conquest at the feet of his defense.

Most hockey people who followed the playoffs were adamant it wouldn't have been quite that easy for the Canadiens if it hadn't been for the sterling defensive play of the likes of Guy Lapointe, Serge Savard, Larry Robinson, Doug Jarvis, Jim Roberts, Jacques Lemaire, Pete Mahovlich and Bob Gainey.

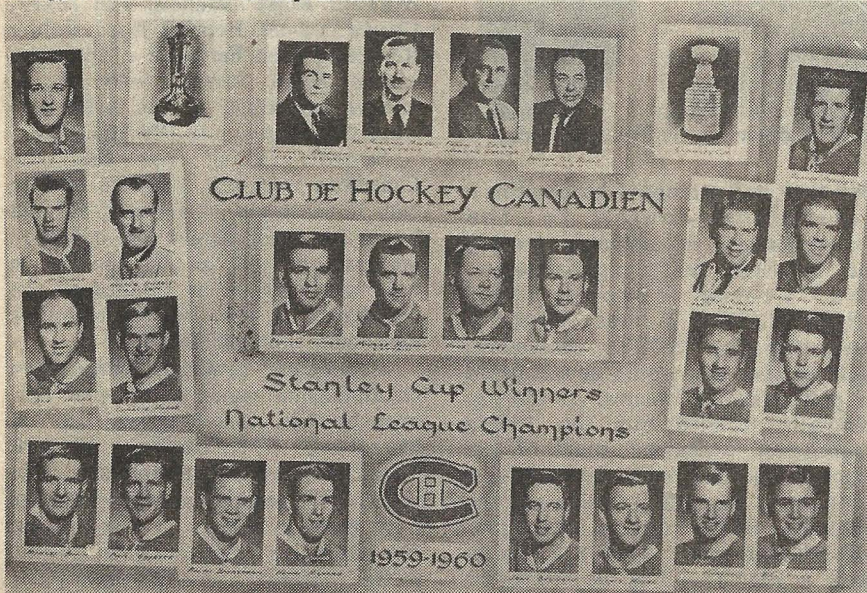
Robinson was so convincing that he was chosen the outstanding playoff performer in complete disagreement with the NHL's selection of record-breaking scorer Reg Leach of the Flyers as the Smythe Trophy MVP winner. Robinson, the 6'2", 200-pound two-way defenseman, had his finest hour as a Canadien in the 1976 playoffs.

Even die-hard oldtimers were hard-pressed to recall a playoff performance to compare with the three-man defense of Robinson, Savard and Lapointe, in the 13 playoff games.

Bowman had outlined at training camp last September that in order to win, the Canadiens first had to reduce their goals-against output and win the Vezina Trophy.

The Stanley Cup would follow was Bowman's prophetic observation at the time.

History now shows that Bowman knew what he was talking about. The Canadiens have to rate with the great cup champions of the past and the fact that they did it by emphasizing defense, made it all the more incredible.



Canadiens won the Stanley Cup for the fifth year in a row in 1960. This display can be seen in the lobby of the Forum.



“REGGIE LEACH: In The Rocket's Red Glare”

By CHARLIE HALPIN

Will 'The Rifle' replace 'The Rocket' as hockey's most electrifying scorer of all time?

Depending on what hockey era you belonged to, you may wonder about the Rocket. You've certainly heard about the Rifle. Strangely both names are synonymous with higher goal productivity and despite the fact they performed nearly 20 years apart, they both bear a similarity to one another.

For the uninformed, the Rocket was the great Maurice Richard of the Montreal Canadiens, undoubtedly the most explosive goal scorer of the pre-expansion period of the National Hockey League. The Rifle, of course, is Reggie Leach, the sharpshooting Philadelphia Flyer who became the new scoring rage of the NHL this past season.

In fact it was Leach's emergence as pro hockey's most prolific single season scorer that raised the inevitable question among the hockey elite, "can The Rifle be compared with The Rocket?"

Leach blasted his way on the NHL scene the past two years with the Flyers as an exciting scorer, but the

1976-77 campaign elevated him to a class by himself when he triggered 80 goals in one season—61 in regular league competition and a record 19 in post-season Stanley Cup play.

No one before him ever scored 80 goals in one big league hockey year. Not even the indomitable Rocket, who in all fairness to the Montreal super star performed at a time when 50-game seasons were becoming an innovation as compared to today's 80-game schedule, which the NHL established in recent years.

Reggie The Rifle is the young man who quickens pulses around Philadelphia's Spectrum with his cannonading shot and hot scoring production. But it wasn't always that way for Leach.

The Flyer winger is proof positive that if you don't succeed in one city, try another and another. Leach, a five-year NHLer, is playing with his third league team. He didn't make it with the Bruins in Boston or the Seals in California and for a good reason—no one was able to utilize his goal scoring talents the way Fred Shero has done in Philly.

Leach and Richard have many of

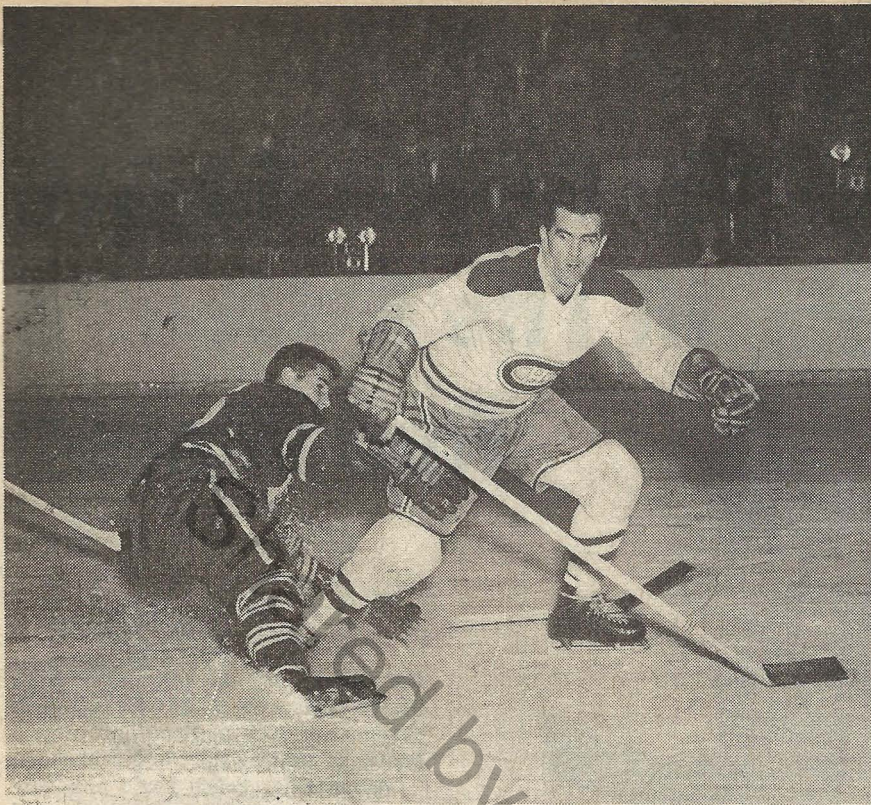
the same ice characteristics. Both played right wing. Both were relentless skaters and each had the unequivocal knack of putting the puck in the net.

Admittedly, Leach has a long way to go to emulate the Rocket's goal scoring feats which were achieved in a shorter schedule and during the tough six-team concept that made the NHL a closed corporation for the greats of the Richardian era.

The Rocket toiled 18 NHL years, played nearly a thousand games, scored a remarkable 544 career goals and is still listed as the greatest playoff scorer of all time with 82 lifetime goals even though he's been retired since 1960. Richard's 544 mark stood him as the king of the NHL scorers until a Saskatchewan farm boy by the name of Gordie Howe came along and eclipsed his records.

Richard differs from Leach in that he was a fiery, temperamental individual who loved to score and hated to lose. He displayed a short fuse when provoked, which wasn't very often. NHL opponents held a profound respect for the Rocket and took few liberties with him in much the same way they treated Howe. Still Richard managed over 1,200 penalty minutes and was known throughout his playing days as a referee baiter. His displeasure for the men in the striped shirts led him to violence on more than one occasion and he ultimately received his fair share of suspensions for his boisterous conduct on the ice.

If Leach has the Richard flare he hasn't shown it up to now. Born of Indian parents, the slightly taller Philadelphia scoring star isn't given to temper bursts as such. In five NHL campaigns he logged only 202 penalty minutes in 410 NHL games, hardly comparable to the Rocket.



Maurice Richard gets by a Toronto defender, circa 1949.

Still some see the six-foot, 185-pound Leach as a throwback to the Rocket, who had the distinction of becoming the NHL's first 50-goal scorer and the first and only man to score 50 in 50 games. During Leach's epic year, he tallied 37 goals in his first 54 games, well off the Richard pace.

But Leach's effective, breakaway speed and quick acceleration when shooting were traits of the Rocket. Leach's quick release and accuracy are the secrets to his high goal scoring production while Richard relied more on deception and strength. It was

nothing for the Rocket to muscle his way past one or two defenders before scoring. Leach prefers to wind up from the outside of the blueline and blast his way past opposing netminders. His

80 goals are testimony enough that he shoots straight.

It was ironic that Leach should equalize one of Richard's long-standing playoff records during the 1976 Stanley Cup round when he scored five times in one game against Boston. The Rocket was the first to turn the turn the trick back in 1944 when he scored all five goals as Montreal beat Toronto 5-1 in a playoff game. Darryl Sittler of the Leafs also scored five goals in this year's cup playdowns but it didn't seem to have the impact of Leach's feat, which left the Bruins muttering to themselves and goalie Gilles Gilbert a broken man.

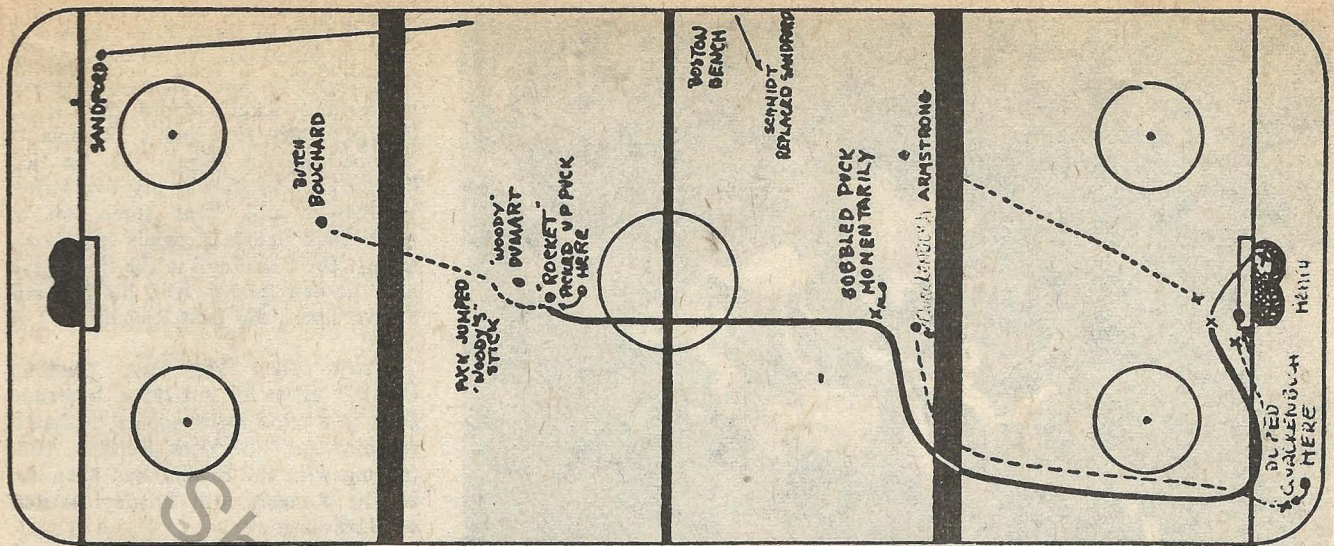
Leach himself admits that his ability to get the puck off fast has been his big weapon. "I can release the puck as fast as anyone, I guess," said Leach. "My biggest thing, I suppose, is that within 15 or 20 feet of the net I'm deadly." Vezina trophy winning goalie Ken Dryden was among Leach's playoff victims. He gave up four to the hard-shooting Flyer winger in the cup finals. Gilbert allowed seven of Leach's shots to elude him in the playoffs and three during the season giving him a total of 10 he surrendered to the NHL's new scoring champ. Leach mixed up his delivery and scored strikes on slapshots, wristshots and even backhanders. Of his five-goal playoff flurry against Boston, his coach Fred Shero called them the five



Richard pours the bubbly after another Canadian Cup victory.



Leach is stopped in close by Toronto's Wayne Thomas.



Richard's greatest goal gave Montreal a seventh game, 2-1 win over Boston in the 1952 playoff semi-finals while semi-conscious. He eluded every Bruin on the ice.

most beautiful goals he had ever seen.

Leach, who never knew the Rocket or ever met the former Canadiens' great, had the opportunity to come face-to-face with Richard when the two occupied the same stage at the NHL's summer hockey meetings and awards presentations. Richard was there to present Bobby Clarke with the Hart Trophy as MVP and afterwards, there was time to exchange greetings with Leach. It amounted to small talk between the two, but both had nothing but praise for Leach's linemate, Clarke.

Leach credited Clarke with helping bring him to Philadelphia and with his ultimate success with the Flyers. It seems, Clarke discovered that Leach had been disenchanted with the Seals and would welcome a trade elsewhere.

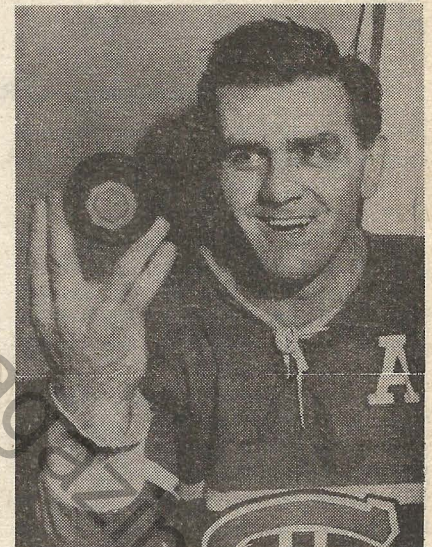
Clarke, who was a junior teammate of Leach's at Flin Flon in the Western Canada League, suggested to Flyers' GM Keith Allen that Leach would be a good acquisition for Philadelphia if the club could swing a deal. Allen offered the Seals two players and first draft choice in May 1974. The Seals mulled over the swap and finally made it.

Leach has scored 133 times in two years of league and playoff action for the Flyers making a shrewd dealer of Allen.

Now that he has conquered the scoring world what lies ahead for Leach? The 26-year-old could become the NHL's first 80-goal scorer in time surpassing Espo's 68 and 76-goal years with the Bruins. Certainly Leach, Clarke and Bill Barber, who together formed the highest scoring line in

league history last season, will be aiming for even bigger things next season.

All three Flyer linemates feel the same about their hockey prowess. It's not much fun unless you win the Stanley Cup and the Flyers didn't make it this past season. Leach played



The Rocket holds the puck with which he scored his 400th career goal.

on his first cup winner in 1975 and reportedly derived more satisfaction out of winning the Stanley Cup than anything else in his hockey career.

Like all the Flyers he'd like to experience that feeling again. If he hopes to become the modern day 'Rocket' he'll have to make up for lost time in two categories—goal scoring and playing on championship teams. Richard scored 544 career goals, Leach has 166. The Rocket played on eight Stanley Cup winners and Leach one.

Still being mentioned in the same breath as Richard has to be a thrill for the rangy Philadelphia scoring



Leach is congratulated by former teammate Johnny Bucyk after the Flyers eliminated the Bruins in last year's semi-finals.



Determination was Richard's forte in the 1950's.

phenomenon. Modern day hockey fans probably don't remember the Rocket, but there's a good chance they'll never forget the Rifle.

From the time he made his first playoff appearance at age 22 until his final showing at age 39, the Rocket was a simmering fuse capable of exploding for a goal at the crucial moment.

His five goal outburst against Toronto in March of 1944, was only a small portion of Richard's Stanley Cup heroics. There isn't much doubt that the Rocket is the greatest scorer in Cup history, going all the way back to the 1893 start of Stanley Cup play. The legend of the Canadiens has the figures. Besides 82 playoff goals, he has six overtime sudden death scores, three more than anyone else, and 18 game winning goals, four more than Boom Boom Geoffrion.

In comparison the great Gordie Howe has 14 game winners, but never scored an overtime goal in NHL playoff competition, and had to wait until this past season's Avco Cup play in the WHA to get a sudden death marker. Geoffrion, a great clutch player, never scored in overtime.

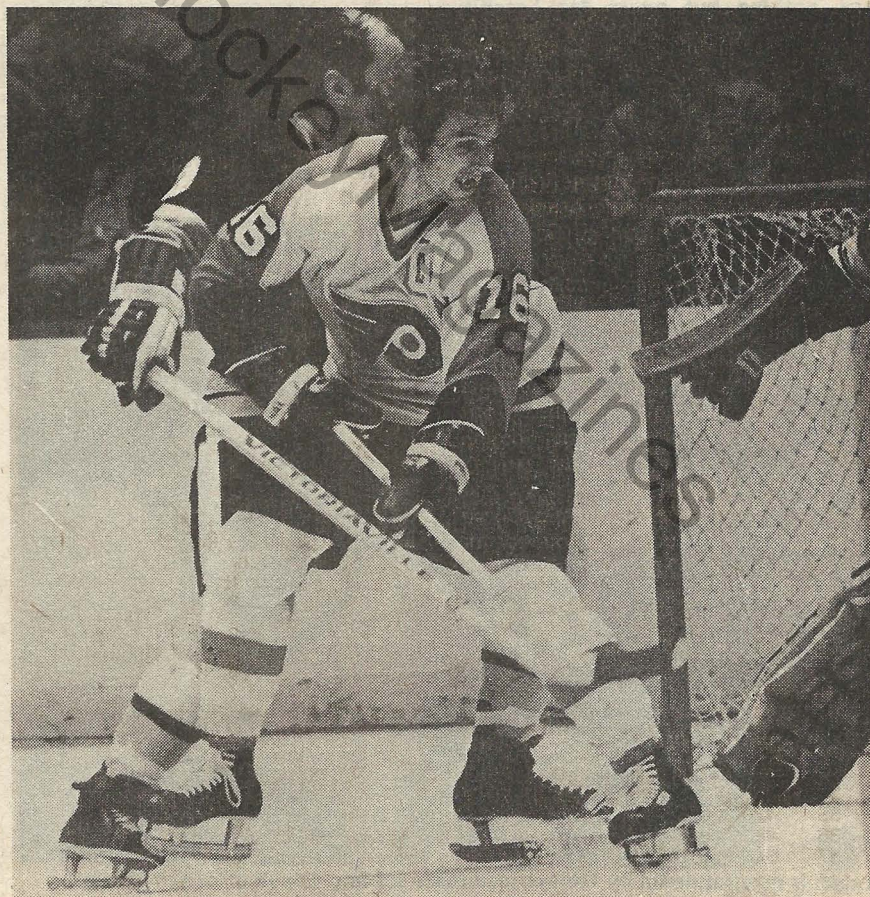
In 1944, when Richard got those five goals against Toronto, he was being guarded by Bob Davidson, a great checker. He set a Playoff record with 12 goals that year, which lasted

until the era of three series, instead of two. In succession, Frank Mahovlich, Phil Esposito and Yvan Cournoyer broke the Rocket's record, until they, too, gave way to Leach's 19 goals. It can be said for Reggie that he tied Cournoyer's 15 goals in just two series, whereas it took Yvan three sets to reach that figure. Reggie's four goals against the Canadiens in the finals gave him the new record. Also his 15 goals in two series, did beat Richard's 12 of 1944.

They called Mel Hill, "Sudden Death," after he got three overtime goals in a 1938 series against his hated enemies the New York Rangers. Hill, playing with the Bruins, had been cut by the Rangers. Bill Cowley assisted on all three goals.

Richard doubled the magic figure of three, but he never got three in one series. He did get three in a single year, two against the pennant winning Detroit Red Wings, the team which won seven straight NHL pennants and had Howe, Ted Lindsay, Red Kelly, Marcel Pronovost and Goalies Harry Lumley and Terry Sawchuk.

In 1951, when his center Elmer Lach was getting old, and the Canadiens had not reached the peak of their five time winners, circa 1955-60, Richard was almost the entire Montreal offense. One of these games was the third longest in Cup history



Leach's success is partly attributable to linemate Bobby Clarke...

and pointed up the tremendous stamina of the Rocket. On March 27, 1951, the Rocket was being guarded by Marty Pavelich, with defenseman Leo Reise constantly baiting the star, trying to goad him into cheap penalties. But in the end, Richard prevailed, by going around Reise for the winner, 3-2.

This tired out Detroit and gave the less skilled Canadiens a chance to extend the next game into three overtimes, whereupon Ricard went to work, lashing a rebound past Sawchuk, after a shot by Billy Reay.

At the age of 36, against the Bruins, in the finals, Richard scored four of five goals against Don Simmons, causing the Bruin netminder to comment, "I'm a good pro, but he made me look foolish. His eyes were glittering like beacons as he came at me."

Perhaps Richard's greatest goal came against the Bruins, deciding the 1952 semi-finals. Boston and Montreal had split the first six games and the winner would go into the finals. Played at the Montreal Forum,

Richard was knocked cold in the first period when he was sandwiched by Leo Labine and Bill Quackenbush. His head hit Labine's knee. Trainer Bill Head had Dr. Gorgon Younger take six stitches. The Rocket was still groggy, his head swathed in bandages when he returned to the Canadiens' bench late in the final period. He asked Lach what the score was and was told, "1-1."

Richard nodded to coach Dick Irvin and stepped on the ice. Both teams were playing a man short, with just a couple of minutes left in the game. Canadien defenseman Butch Bouchard passed to Richard at center ice, lifting the puck over Woody Dumart's stick. At the Boston blue line, Quackenbush and Bob Armstrong waited for Richard. The Rocket cut to the right and with one hand held off Quackenbush as he rode all the way to the goal line, apparently too far out to angle a shot at "Sugar" Jim Henry in the Boston net.

Instead of shooting, the Rocket deked Quackenbush and headed straight towards the net from the

sideboards. Armstrong came back, but too late. Maurice cut in front of Henry, deked him and scored into the far upper corner of the net.

Later, in the dressing room, the sobbing Richard collapsed and had to be quieted with a hypodermic needle. He was only half conscious when he scored his game winner.

"I had a hazy idea of what to do and I did it," said Maurice.

No matter how many goals Leach scores, there will always be The Rocket. And that will still be the case years from now when fans are comparing some future sharpshooters to the Rifle.

N.H.L. Leaders

Goals	Player	Year
76	Phil Esposito	1970-71
68	Phil Esposito	1973-74
66	Phil Esposito	1971-72
61	Reg Leach	1975-76
61	Phil Esposito	1974-75
58	Bobby Hull	1968-69
55	Phil Esposito	1972-73
54	Bobby Hull	1965-66
52	Bobby Hull	1966-67

The Legend Of Leach

REGULAR SEASON GAMES

Goal	Game	Date	Opponent	Score	Goaltender
1	1	Oct. 9	Washington	5-4	Belhumeur
2	3	12	California	4-1	Meloche
3	3	12	California		Meloche
4	5	18	Montreal	2-2	Dryden
5	8	25	Pittsburgh	4-4	Plasse
6	9	26	NY Rangers	7-2	Giacomin
7	11	Nov. 1	Boston	8-1	Gilbert
8	16	9	Pittsburgh	6-4	Inness
9	17	12	Buffalo	3-1	Desjardins
10	22	22	NY Rangers	4-2	Davidson
11	23	26	Atlanta	7-3	Myre
12	23	26	Atlanta		Myre
13	24	29	Toronto	1-1	Thomas
14	27	Dec. 6	St. Louis	2-7	Belanger
15	27	6	St. Louis		Belanger
16	28	7	Minnesota	6-1	LoPresti
17	28	7	Minnesota		LoPresti
18	30	13	Los Angeles	6-4	Edwards
19	30	13	Los Angeles		Edwards
20	31	17	Chicago	4-2	Esposito
21	32	19	Washington	7-5	Wolfe
22	33	21	St. Louis	8-3	Belanger
23	33	21	St. Louis		Belanger
24	38	Jan. 3	Pittsburgh	8-4	Plasse
25	38	3	Pittsburgh		Plasse
26	39	4	NY Islanders	5-3	Resch
27	39	4	NY Islanders		Resch
28	40	7	Toronto	7-3	Thomas
29	40	7	Toronto		Thomas
30	42	15	Pittsburgh	4-1	Laxton
31	43	17	Kansas City	7-1	Herron
32	45	22	Atlanta	7-2	Myre
33	45	22	Atlanta		Myre
34	45	22	Atlanta		Bouchard
35	47	25	Boston	3-5	Gilbert
36	48	27	Atlanta	4-8	Bouchard
37	54	Feb. 12	NY Rangers	6-1	Davidson
38	55	13	NY Rangers	5-3	Davidson
39	55	13	NY Rangers		Davidson

PLAYOFF GAMES

Goal	Game	Date	Opponent	Score	Goaltender
1	1	Apr. 12	Toronto	4-1	Thomas
2	4	17	Toronto	3-4	Thomas
3	5	20	Toronto	7-1	Thomas
4	5	20	Toronto		McRae
5	6	22	Toronto	5-8	Thomas
6	7	25	Toronto	7-3	Thomas
7	1	27	Boston	2-4	Gilbert
8	2	29	Boston	2-1	Cheevers
9	3	2	Boston	5-2	Gilbert
10	4	4	Boston	4-2	Cheevers
11	5	6	Boston	6-3	Gilbert
12	5	6	Boston		Gilbert
13	5	6	Boston		Gilbert
14	5	6	Boston		Gilbert
15	5	6	Boston		Gilbert
16	1	10	Montreal	3-4	Dryden
17	3	13	Montreal	2-3	Dryden
18	3	13	Montreal		Dryden
19	4	16	Montreal	3-5	Dryden

"VIOLENCE: Is hockey coping, or copping out?"

ONE MAN'S OPINION:

By BILL SHANNON

Much has been written and said in recent months about the 'upsurge' of violence in hockey. In reality, the only thing there has been an upsurge in has been stories about hockey violence. Almost all authorities close to the game, including its own players and students of its history state emphatically that hockey, if anything, is less violent than it was even a decade ago.

In fact, what the N.H.L. did when it expanded in 1967 from a six-team circuit to a 12-team one was replace the tough, almost brutal, low-scoring games. As the average goals per game increased, the premium on each goal declined and the intensity for which each goal was fought for decreased.

Over a period of roughly thirty years, it can be seen that there is a variance in the number of goals averaged per team game. During the six-team years, the 50-game schedule of 1945-46 produced 1003 goals, a total somewhat abnormally high because of the unsettled conditions following World War II, but a good place to start. Those 1002 goals meant each of the six clubs averaged 167.1 goals for a season or 3.34 per team game.

Then as the quality of play steadily increased with the flow of good young players restored by the end of the military draft in Canada, the number of goals started to drop. In 1955-56, the six-team league produced 1064 goals for a 70-game schedule or 177.3 goals for each team for the year and 2.53 per team game.

Another factor in those days was

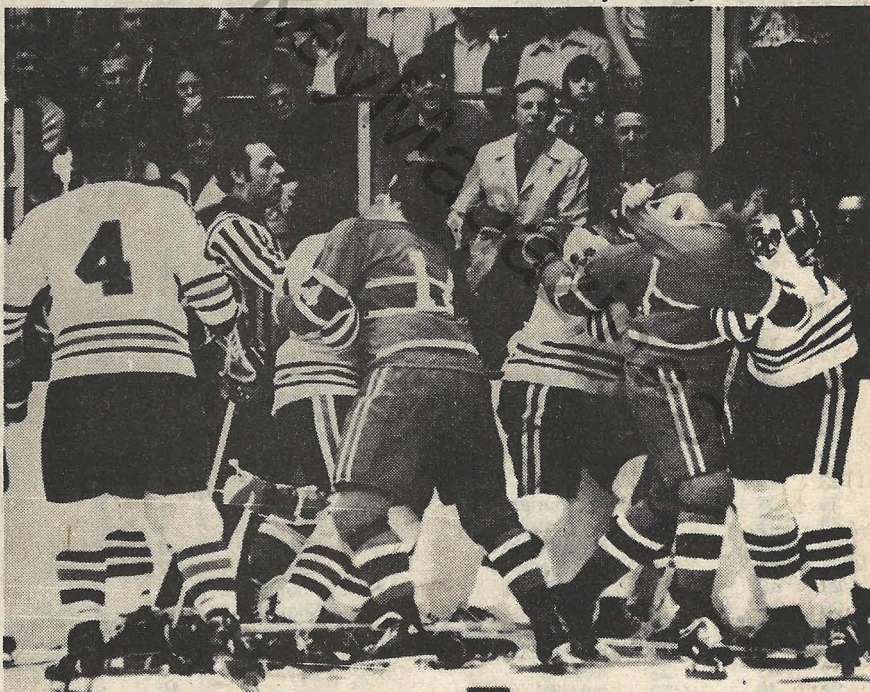
the frequency with which teams faced each other.

The increasing number of goals and the wider margins from top to bottom in the league are relevant in that they indicate many more games of greater margin different in final score. More games decided by 7-3 scores and many less by 2-1 or 3-2.

Clearly, the competitive nature of a 3-2 game is much more intense than a 7-3 one. The more intense the game, the more emotional and thus the greater potential for violence borne of aroused emotions among the players and fans.

To this observer, hockey crowds are docile compared to what they were years ago and so, to a great extent, are the games.

Isolated instances of outrageous violence may make heavy-ink headlines and great fodder for the hot magazine format news shows of television, but averages tend to tell a story much more logically and completely. What appears to have happened is much of the intensity which has left the ice in hockey has been transferred to the courtroom where such cases seem tragically to find their way for adjudication all too



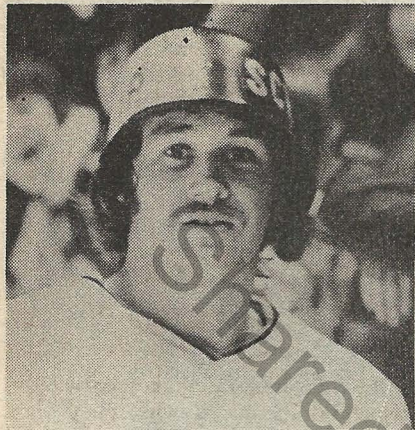
Canadiens square off with Chicago Black Hawks last February.

BILL SHANNON is the president of the New York public relations firm of Bill Doll, Shannon and Co., and has had a long career as a sportswriter, newspaperman and radio

newsman. Mr. Shannon was the director of public relations for the International Soccer League, a P.R. staffer for the New York Jets football club and from 1966 to 1973.

director of public relations for New York's Madison Square Garden home ice for the New York Rangers. He is also the author of several sports books.

often these days. Each expansion has diluted the hockey talent on each club more and more. In 1965-66 there were six major league hockey teams in all of North America. Today, there are 30 purporting to such designation. It should be obvious that no system of talent development is capable of producing players at the same level of



Widespread publicity has made Dave Schultz a folk-hero in Philadelphia.

skill and ability for 30 teams as it is for six.

One of the consequences of this dilution is that the need for a first-class fighter merely to survive is no longer present. Most of the great scorers of the 1950's were outstanding fighters, usually so good they didn't have to prove it very often. Andy Bathgate had lightning hands, Gordie Howe likewise.

In order to fill a 70-game schedule against only five other clubs, each team had to be met 14 times. In today's condition, an 80-game schedule and an 18-team league, a team might be faced as few as four times in a season. This means that the odds for a vendetta developing are much less. If an opponent is met 14 times under constant pressure, incidental contact becomes an incident requiring retaliation. Grudges are carried over to the next meeting, magnified, and magnified again in the intensity to reach the playoffs. Riots of major proportions were not uncommon in the six-team years. They are uncommon now.

It is popular in most debates of this type to quote the exceptional cases to prove a point. The tragic mauling of Marc Tardif in a W.H.A. playoff game does not inherently prove reprehensible as the incident is, that all hockey games are automatically more violent than they have ever been. Random reviews of old game films bare out a reverse contention.

Returning to the expansion of the goal-scoring theory for the moment, the six-team league in its final days showed a slight upturn in scoring. In

1965-66, 1277 goals were scored in 70 games, an average of 212.8 per team and 3.04 per team game.

In 1974-75, the 80-game schedule of the 18-team league in the N.H.L. produced 4932 goals, 274.0 per team on the average and 3.51 per team game. This is almost one full goal per team more than the comparable figures for 1955-56. Even more important, the spread between top and bottom is dramatically wider. In 1955-56, Montreal scored 222 goals, most in the league and Boston got the least, 147, a disparity of 75 goals in absolute numbers. In 1974-75, Montreal had 374 and Washington 181, a gap of 193.

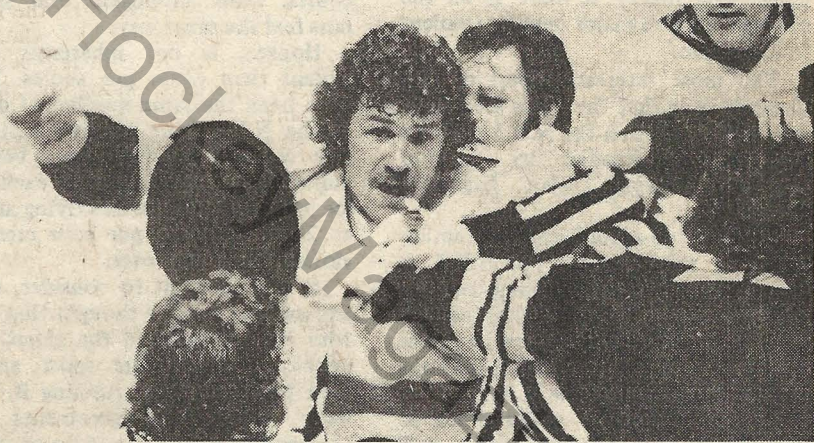
But hockey was still filled with players of less ability who survived on their fighting ability. Quality is a relative thing. While all of the players in the six-team era were probably more skillful on the average than the average of today's 30-odd clubs, there were still gradations of skill among the players in the six-team circuit. Men such as Lou Fontinato of the New York Rangers built their reputations on their fighting capability. Howie Young played with a couple of teams

when Richard attacked Bruin defenseman Hal Laycoe with his stick and subsequently slugged linesman Cliff Thompson. The resultant suspension by N.H.L. president Clarence Campbell produced a riot in Montreal which caused perhaps a million dollars in property damage (more by today's inflated standards).

Such a series of occurrences today would doubtless produce a massive outcry from any self-appointed protector of the public good within reach of a microphone or a typewriter. It produced some then. But it would probably be accepted by serious hockey observers for what it is, an emotional outburst by an emotional man in an emotional situation which must be dealt with by the game's authorities.

Campbell, then as now president of the league, stood his ground. He attended the next Canadian home game at the Montreal Forum and suffered through an attack on himself and his secretary. Both were targets of profanity, derision and thrown objects.

One of the frequently misunderstood results of such events is that they have a cathartic effect. Sports serves a very specific function in this respect. It is an outlet for emotion under a more-or-less



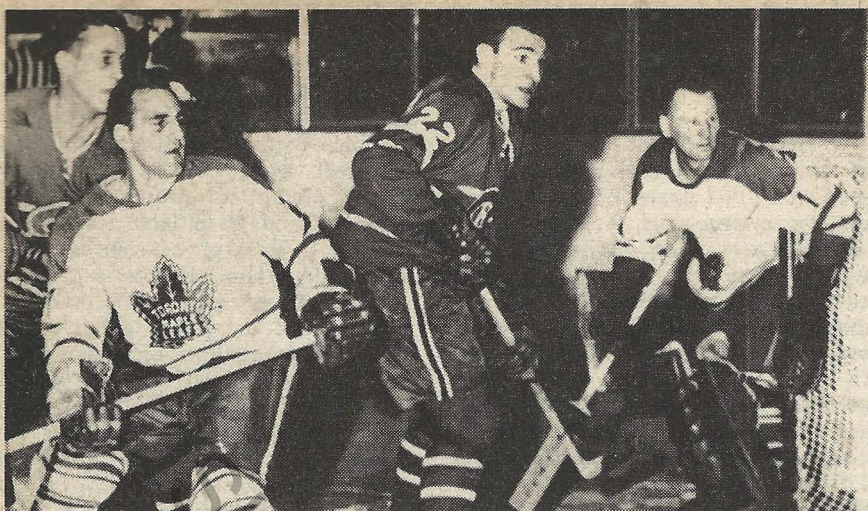
Schultz has logged almost 1400 penalty minutes in only four years.

for the same reason and several others could be listed like Bill Juzda, Gus Mortson and Fernie Flaman, were tough but also talented. But in the 1950's, it was not uncommon for high scorers like Maurice Richard and Ted Lindsay to also lead the league in penalty minutes since fighting was a more universal activity.

Richard, one of the greatest, if not the greatest, goal-producer in pro hockey history under the conditions in which he played was also responsible for attacks on officials and inflicted severe injury on several opponents in fights of various kinds. The most famous, of course, took place in the Boston Garden on March 13, 1955,

controlled environment, emotions which cannot realistically be let out in any other way in a civilized society. Those involved in sports for a livelihood understand this function even if they frequently cannot articulate it. Campbell, an outstanding attorney who served as a judge at the Nuremburg trials, certainly understands it.

One of the outstanding exponents of the attack—from-without school of policing hockey, a Toronto lawyer who shall not be named here, once turned in a report concluding that 'hockey is sick', presumably because it engaged in some activity of which he, as a non-involved, non-participant, did not approve.



Jean Beliveau, Bob Baun, John Ferguson, and Johnny Bower (l to r) in 1964 playoff action. Closer games in the pre-expansion days meant more friction between players.

Campbell responded, 'That assessment may be correct, but it is not what we're concerned about. At least, I don't think that is what we are concerned about. There is not more fights now. It just seems more intensified because of exposure on TV. Instant replay is the worst culprit. It has created the impression of constant fighting. They play it over and over again. The reality is, there is on the average not one major penalty (violent foul) a game.'

The most interesting part of this situation was that the press seemingly was surprised when the N.H.L. Players Associated, headed by another successful lawyer, Alan Eagleson, agreed.

'Here we go again,' said a statement issued by the NHLPA. 'The N.H.L. is everybody's favorite whipping boy. In pro hockey, a player takes certain risks. It's not that bad; otherwise, there would be a lot fewer players anxious to earn their living in the N.H.L.'

Sportswriters who spend much of their other time covering tennis, golf or swimming, seemed amazed that hockey players accept that condition of their lives that fighting is a normal part of what they do for a living. Athletes generally are tough mentally as well as physically and have a competitive instinct within them. These are the qualities which make them athletes in the first place. Many more of us have these instincts than exhibit them on hockey ice in the N.H.L. or W.H.A., A.H.L. or C.P.H.L. The performance of Canadian and American men under combat during World War II showed this. Not all, however, have the physical skill to become athletes. The pro athlete is different in his outlook than the schoolgirl or intellectual (and vice versa). This doesn't make him bad, insane, misfit or perjorative. It just

makes him different. If he is willing to accept conditions of employment which others do not and is able to perform a social function thereby, there doesn't seem any reason to prevent him from so doing. Hardly any professional athletes believe that a match misconduct penalty is criminal act or that a hockey brawl requires the attention of the already-overcrowded courts. Most intelligent and sincere fans feel the same way.

Hockey is not inherently more violent than other pro sports. There have been the same number of deaths in the N.H.L. due to game action in this century as there have been in major league baseball—one each. The ice spectacle with bodies flying around at 20 or 25 miles per hour creates a violent image, however.

It is important to consider, under any conditions, the thought that those who best understand the game, be it hockey or any other sport, are the men playing it and running it. They have internal disagreements over

pensions and salaries but they are drawn together for the most part by a mutual love for the game and a common respect for one another. They have the capacity and capability to deal with the problems of their game and they will be the first to recognize when these problems have gone beyond the limits of the existing rules. Rule and enforcement adjustments are constantly being made in all major team sports for just this



Ted Lindsay moves in on Montreal's Jacques Plante. Lindsay was tough, but was a great player as well.

reason. Nobody is opposed to receiving constructive suggestions from outside observers, in fact, input from any interested party is welcomed as a general rule.



Brawls in the 1950's—like this one between the Rangers and Red Wings—were more dangerous. Players didn't always drop their sticks.

However, petulant attempts at retribution when an outsider's suggestions are not adopted rarely serve any useful purpose. It was interesting to observe the response of the jury in the attempt to convict Dan Maloney for a fight with Brian Glennie in Toronto. The criminal charges were dismissed. Almost everyone else involved felt the criminal charges were unwarranted in the first place. If Maloney had stepped beyond the norms of his environment, he would have received peer justice. It comes in

many forms, some subtle and some blatant. He was not subject to any such reactions. The jury of his true peers also found him innocent.

It's high time those unfamiliar with the laws under which sports police themselves cease attempting to force their own theories of justice on men who are uninterested in them. No one who attends a hockey game is forced to do so. No one who plays the game is coerced into it. They shouldn't be forced to defend themselves for their choices.



Eddie Shore was the NHL's big brawler in the 1930s.

PUBLIC OUTCRY, CROWN PROSECUTOR FOI N.H.L. ACTION AGAINST GOON HOCKEY

Canadian and U.S. public opinion forced Clarence Campbell, the president of the NHL to change his stated position and lead rule changes which would mitigate against the employment of intimidating tactics in games. Ontario's attorney general Roy McMurtry led the charge, bringing Detroit's Dan Maloney up on criminal charges for a fistic victory over Toronto's Brian Glennie. Maloney was eventually judged not guilty in a jury trial, but after the Maloney-Glennie incident, three Philadelphia Flyers, Mel Bridgman, Jimmy Watson and Don Saleski were indicted for violence in the seven game Toronto-

Philadelphia quarter final.

Last year, on January 4, 1975, a fight in Minnesota between the North Stars Henry Boucha and Boston's Dave Forbes resulted in Forbes being charged. Forbes was released following a jury trial.

In the WHA, the Marc Tardif incident in which the Quebec Nordiques' super star was brutally beaten by Calgary's Rick Jodzio with resultant loss of reflexes and a serious brain concussion, almost stopped the WHA playoffs. Tardif, a 71 goal scorer, may not be able to play this year. Bobby Hull, playing on a team

with many Europeans who aren't used to heavy hitting, is on record that unless the league does something about the goon hockey, he will quit.

At the NHL's annual meeting in Montreal, rule changes were made, which are detailed herein. Whether they will curb the violence is a question. It may be up to the referees and linesmen and it may be up to the owners—and the attitude they adopt.

Despite all of this, many old time fans and hockey people feel the hurrah about violence in the seventies is overdone. The above opinion is not that of the publisher, but it is an opinion to be examined for full value.

CHANGES NHL RULE CHANGES NHL RUL

Montreal—For the first time in League history, three player representatives were invited to attend the rules committee meeting during the NHL's Annual meeting.

The three players—Bobby Clarke of Philadelphia, Andre Boudrias of Vancouver and Bob Gainey of Montreal—attended the session along with NHLPA Executive Director Alan Eagleson.

Seventeen of the 18 NHL teams were represented, Kansas City the lone exception.

The Rules Committee approved the following changes:

Rule 8: Face-off Spots and Circles. There now will be a line, six inches long and two inches wide, extending out from the "12 o'clock" and "6 o'clock" positions of the spots. The cross-bar on the "T" is to be six feet long. (The old length was three feet). The purpose of the new markings is to ensure the players taking the face-offs put the tip of the blade of their stick on the small line and that their skates

stay behind the cross-bar of the T. This should eliminate the "cheating" whereby the players try to gain an edge by moving their stick around the spot instead of keeping it at the bottom.

Rule 34A (A new rule): "In addition to the automatic fines and suspensions imposed under these rules, the President may, at his discretion, investigate any incident that occurs in connection with any League or playoff game and may assess additional fines and/or suspensions for any offense committed during the course of a game or any aftermath thereof by a player, trainer, manager, coach or club executive whether or not such offense has been penalized by the referee."

Rule 54 (a)—Fisticuffs.

The rule was amended to read as follows: "A major and a Game Misconduct penalty or a major penalty, at the discretion of the referee, shall be imposed on any player who starts fisticuffs."

And, the following note (after Rule

54 (b) was added:

"Note 1"—It is the intent and purpose of this rule that the referee shall impose the "major and game misconduct" penalty in all cases when the instigator of the fight or the retaliator is the aggressor and is plainly doing so for the purpose of intimidation or punishment.

The above rule change, along with the note, was approved unanimously by the Rules Committee. A proposal by the NHL Players' Association "that a major and game misconduct penalty shall be imposed on any player involved in fisticuffs" was defeated 13-4 by the Rules Committee.

Rule 63 (b)—Interference by/with spectators:

The rule was changed to read as follows:

"Any player who physically interferes with the spectators shall automatically incur a game misconduct penalty and the referee

cont'd on page 89

Marcel Dionne: THE King of Los Angeles!

By BILL LIBBY

Marcel Dionne is a small, smoldering stick of dynamite. He looks like a high school football player, but at the age of 25 has been aged by five seasons of tumult. He has averaged almost 100 points a season in his short time up top, yet is considered a controversial performer who has been criticized for his supposed selfishness.

Dionne is dark. He has dark eyes, which gleam like glowing coals. He has a boyish, but hard face. He has a small, but hard body. He is only 5-7 and 170 pounds, but is built like a baby bull. As a hockey player, he is spectacular. He is quick on his skates and he handles a stick skillfully.

He has marvellous moves and bobs in and out of opposition defenses on offense. He is hard to hit and difficult to contain. He is elusive and animated. The puck always seems to wind up on his stick, and when he gets it, he can make a perfect pass with it or snap off a quick, hard, accurate shot with it.

Beyond doubt, Dionne is one of the most accomplished and exciting players in hockey today. But for the fact that he is a center and there are a lot of outstanding centers who have played for better teams and been better publicized, Dionne would be better known.

As an amateur for St Catherine's he was spectacular. In three seasons, he scored 154 goals in 148 games, including 62 goals in 46 games his last season. Sidelined by an injury part of that season, he still assisted on 81 goals and totalled a record 143 points.

Selected second to Guy Lafleur in the draft of graduating amateurs, Marcel moved up to Detroit and set a rookie record with 77 points. In four seasons he scored 139 goals and totalled 366 points, the best first-four-year pace in NHL history.

However, he was supposed to make an instant winner of the Red Wings and he did not. The Wings won only 122 games in 314 games during his stay and were buried at the bottom of the standings. He came under constant criticism, and grew restless and rebellious.

Marcel walked out on the Wings a couple of times over the years, and was suspended by them a couple of times. In the dressing room one night, he attacked a writer who said the player wanted to leave the team.

Announcing his intention to leave, Dionne played out his option, became a free agent, came to a five-year, \$1.5



The King is known as Little Beaver to his friends

million agreement with the Kings, who made a deal with the Wings, sending Dan Maloney and Terry Harper to Detroit in exchange.

The Kings were coming into contention and Dionne was expected to produce the offensive spark they needed. He did not. He had a good year, but not as good as expected. He has scored more than the 40 goals and 94 points he totalled in Los Angeles, though those were team records and he was voted team MVP.

The team declined on offense and in the standings.

He was streaky. He had stretches when he'd score five or six goals in three or four games, and he had four three-goal games, but he also suffered through stretches when he seemed to disappear.

"I haven't been consistent," he confessed. "I can't seem to put it together. I get hot, then cold. I have the puck, then can't find it."

He never would blame anyone else, but he had little help here. The talent on the team did not include strong wingers to protect him, feed him, score off his passes.

Once foes found out that stopping him often stopped his team, they roughed him regularly. He picked himself up off the ice without complaint. "It's part of the game," he shrugged.

Labelled a selfish player, he went out of his way to prove himself

otherwise. He'd make magnificent plays, but his wingers would put his perfect passes into the goalies' pads, onto the posts, over the net, into the seats.

He who could score was passing up his shots to pass to teammates who could not. "I guess I should be shooting more," he admitted late in the long season. "But you've got to give the other guys their chances too."

No one was setting him up very often.

He was not a factor in the first-round of the playoffs as Rogie Vachon's superb goaltending frustrated Atlanta three straight.

He was not a factor in the first game of the second round of the playoffs as Boston blanked L.A.

After a Boston writer termed him "Jack Kent Cooke's overpaid million-dollar so-called superstar, Dionne came to life in the second game.

Skating spectacularly, he drove elusively in to fire two shots into the nets that tied the game and sent it into overtime, where Butch Goring won it.

Back home, the Kings were trailing, 2-1, when Dionne ignited a spectacular comeback to a 6-4 triumph with a three-goal outburst. He all but did a dance to get by sticks and skates and gloves at the goal-mouth to get one in. Only an Orr could have matched him.

Cooke was thrilled, feeling repaid for the controversial deal he made.

Veteran Bob Berry remarked, "His was the greatest one-game performance I've ever seen in the playoffs." Basking in the triumph, Dionne admitted, "Maybe what that Boston writer wrote inspired me. I was insulted. But I'm used to insults."

"You need the breaks. The puck bounced for me. I never doubted I could get goals when I had the opportunities."

He had received ovations. Sighing, he said, "It is nice to be a hero, but I am not being carried away by it. I have been booed, too, you know. I have no complaints with the fans, but they are fickle. I just do my job as best I can."

He had been hardened by hard times.

Boston won the series, but Dionne won a place for himself in Los Angeles. He said, "I am happy if I have found a home. But maybe too much was expected of me here. I cannot carry a club by myself. No one can. Not even Bobby Orr. I am a good player. I hope to be great."

"I am a team man," he smiled. "I just hope to fit in."

His eyes twinkled. He has an impish sense of humor. He was supposed to be belligerent, surly, sullen, but I never found him that way, not in Detroit and not in Los Angeles. I always found him an agreeable and excellent interview.

He says, "It is a bad situation in Detroit. I am gone now and I don't want to go into it again, but it is no secret that management has made a series of coaching changes and a lot of players have been unhappy."

"I was young and impulsive. I thought it was good to be honest and outspoken and I said some things I was sorry for. I lost my temper at times and sulked at other times. I was being blamed for every defeat, yet I was not playing poorly."

"It was hard for me to handle it."

"I had a lot of growing up to do. Who doesn't?"

"I'm more mature now. Marriage has settled me down. My wife and I have a daughter. We have a nice home. I look around me and see sunshine and green trees instead of snow and ice. Who wouldn't be happy here?"

Marcel and Carole, married in April of 1974, had Lisa Lee in August of 1975. They have a new home in a splendid section. They plan to live here the year round now, though he will return to his home in Drummondville, Quebec, for visits.

He was not at first accepted here. Harper and Maloney were popular, especially Maloney. Fans love fighters and Maloney could fight. But Dionne is an exciting stylist to watch. Dionne has a potential which keeps you on edge, your eyes glued to him.



Dionne's 94 points were a mild disappointment last year.

Coach Bob Pulford built the Kings into a contender with a conservative, defensive style. Coming in, Dionne admitted, "I will have to do more on defense. But I do not think Mr. Cooke brought me in to ignore my offense."

Cooke had to sell Pulford on Dionne. Most of the season, Dionne felt restrained. A skilled penalty-killer, he set a league record with 10 shorthanded goals gambling with Detroit, but dared no such chances with L.A. Subtract those 10 goals and Dionne did not get as many goals his last season in Detroit as his first in Los Angeles.

Late in the season, the shackles came off and Dionne started to take chances. "I have to pick my spots, but I should not waste my talent," Dionne said. "I want to watch my man, but I'd rather he had to spend all his time watching me. I can't give this team what it wants from me if I don't get goals."

Asked about the system, Marcel

grinned and said, "What system? I have been looking for it. The system I see is the one I always see—play hockey."

"Pully's system is the same as most coaches. You check, you get the puck away from the other guys, you try to get it into the net. He is a good coach because his guys respect him and put out for him and are not divided by dissension."

"We have young guys who can play and are going to get better."

"I, myself, am only approaching my potential."

Dionne has been marked for stardom since boyhood. Growing up in his steel-town, he was one of eight children. He was skating at two on a makeshift surface in his backyard and playing competitively in regulation rinks at 8. Everyone always worried about his lack of size, but he still was considered a super prospect.

He says he feels he owes stardom to the family that supported him. "My parents bought me equipment. When they couldn't, my uncles did. All the time I was a boy when I needed something, no matter what the times were like, these people, these uncles and my parents, saw that I got it. When I was 13 I had \$55 skates. It is as if they dreamed of the NHL for me."

"My dreams were made for me. My Pee-Wee team went to a tournament at a winter carnival in Quebec City. I was singled out. Someone asked for my autograph. I could hardly reach the top of the boards to write my name."

"The spectators would call you over to the boards and hand you a dollar. Sometimes men would come into the dressing room and give us handfulls of money. It was crazy."

"I dreamed my dreams. I made the majors and for a while it was a nightmare. I did so well and got so little credit for it. I was so deeply disappointed. I am not a bad guy. I never wanted to treat people badly. But I felt unloved and unwanted."

"Now it is different. I feel I am wanted. I feel love. I want to repay those people who have had faith in me. I want to do well for myself and my family. I know there is only so much I can do, but whatever I can do, I will do it."

He is an amazing athlete, a clean player who has won one Lady Byng Award and come close to another. In the Canadian version of the televised "Superstars" contest, he placed second with an all-around excellence that put him in the U.S. version.

He is settled now, a star on his way to superstardom perhaps, an articulate and amiable young guy of great gifts who illuminates the ice with his brilliance at times, and may yet unload a bolt of lightning across his sport.



EMILE FRANCIS: Spirit of St. Louis climbs as The Cat rebuilds from scratch

By HARRY KLAFF

Over the twelve year span from October 30, 1964 to Jan. 6, 1976, the New York Rangers were one of the most successful teams in the National Hockey League, playing at about a .600 clip. To a large extent, the team's success was attributed to the presence of Emile Francis in the General Manager's office.

The Cat was also behind the bench for a vast majority of that time, as the Broadway Blueshirts dropped their long-standing tag of ragamuffins, and became a long-term contender for the Stanley Cup.

But the Rangers didn't win the Stanley Cup under Francis, or since 1940 for that matter. And in the Big

Apple, either you win all the marbles or you're gone. Just ask Yogi Berra, Bill Virdon, or Weeb Ewbank.

If anything, Francis lasted much longer and had many more chances than his counterparts in baseball or football. He had a strong relationship with his players, most of whom had been with him over a period of years; and until the very end, he was a favorite of the fans.

But why didn't Francis win the Stanley Cup? There are many valid reasons, but the most important of which is that in any given season, the Rangers simply weren't the best team in the league.

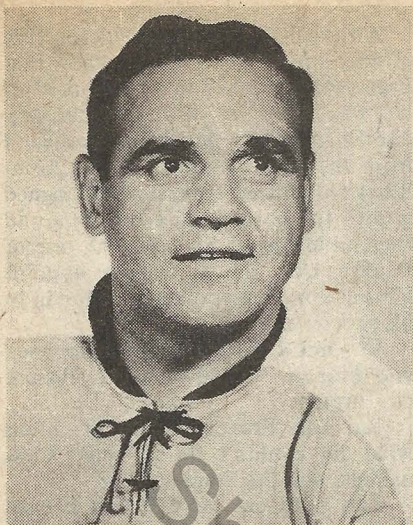
It always seemed that someone would come on with a super year to edge them out of their taste of

champagne. One year it would be Montreal. The next year it would be Boston, or even Chicago to knock them out along the road to the Cup.

A classic example was the 1972-73 season. If there was ever a year that the Rangers were the favorites to take it all, that was it.

After finally making it to the Cup finals (for the only time during the Francis regime) in 1971-72 when they lost to the Bruins, the Rangers looked on during the hectic off-season which saw Boston lose the likes of Gerry Cheevers, Derek Sanderson, and Johnny McKenzie to the brand-new W.H.A.

But along came a super-season by the Montreal Canadiens (coupled with a disastrous showing by the Rangers in



Leo Boivin will return to his job as chief scout for the Blues.

the semi-finals against Chicago), and the wait for the silver trophy became even longer.

Another underlying problem is that Emile's loyalty and devotion to his players might have ultimately caused his undoing. After the W.H.A. was formed back in 1972, most N.H.L. teams adopted an unofficial policy that they would not pay out exorbitant salaries as part of a bidding war, and the Rangers were no exception. At first,

Consequently, it was believed that a number of the Rangers' top performers such as Rod Gilbert, Jean Ratelle, Vic Hadfield, and others were all but signed, sealed, and delivered to the Cleveland Crusaders for six-figure contracts.

Loyalty on the Rangers worked both ways, and right before the players gave their okay to the W.H.A., they gave Francis one more chance. The club obliged, and the era of the 'Fat Cat' Rangers had begun.

Many of Francis' trades were also attacked in retrospect. Such top N.H.L. performers as Curt Bennett, Jim Lorentz, Syl Apps, Don Luce, and Dennis Hextall all wore Ranger blue at one time or another. But they were traded away for what was hoped to be the 'last missing link' which would bring the title to New York.

'At the time of those trades, none of those players could play regularly with the Rangers,' said Francis, and for the most part, he was absolutely right. The one deal which has brought the most outcry, however, is the one which saw Bennett go to the Atlanta Flames for forward-defenseman Ron Harris. In the four years that have passed, Bennett has become a top star, while Harris has seen only limited duty

with the Rangers because of various injuries.

Perhaps the most important cause of Francis' downfall was the change in the management of Madison Square Garden over the past few years. When the Garden was controlled by Irving Mitchell Felt, the hockey department was run lock, stock, and puck by team President William M. Jennings, and Francis.

But things began to change when Michael Burke (late of the Yankees), and a host of others came in. For the first time, hockey dealings were dictated from above, and that didn't please the Cat in the least.

It is believed that one of the first intrusions was the decision on the part of the Rangers to obtain Derek Sanderson after he had bounced out of

Boston. Since Francis was never a fan of Sanderson's (or vice versa), it is highly unlikely that Emile would have done this if he had the total say (It is ironic, of course, that Francis will have Derek under his wing once more in St. Louis).

Then came the purge of the 'Fat Cats.' First went Vic Hadfield and his six-figure contract to Pittsburgh. Then steady, but unspectacular Jim Neilson to California, followed by Rod Seiling to Washington (where he lasted a couple of days before his big pact was shipped northward to Toronto).

Neilson and Seiling were gone in 1974-75, but the effects were delayed; last season the Rangers started terribly with Ron Stewart at the helm. When things went from bad to worse and the heat from above descending on him



Francis as a young coach, circa 1966.



Francis didn't get along with Derek Sanderson in New York. Now he has him in St. Louis.

like a volcano, Francis started trading like his job depended on it—and it did. High-priced Eddie Giacomin was given away for the waiver price. Gilles Villemure went to Chicago for a crippled Doug Jarrett.

And then the clincher. The Trade which sent Brad Park, Jean Ratelle, and Joe Zanussi to Boston for Phil Esposito and Carol Vadnais. Everyone knows, of course, how this one turned out, in the short run at least.

But the deal that turned the fans on Francis was the Giacomin move. Although the graying goaltender had been losing it over the past couple of

years, he was still the darling of the balcony. When Giacomin made his first start for Detroit, it was against the Rangers at the Garden, and the crowd responded with a standing ovation that brought tears to Giacomin's eyes.

A few days later, Francis went to an Islander game at the Nassau Coliseum, and was interviewed in the open on television. Instinctively the crowd started its deafening chants of 'Eddie! Eddie!' (most New York fans are simply hockey fans and can root for either team), and the interview had to be stopped on numerous occasions.

Although he still retained the title of Vice President, everyone knew that Francis was finished in New York after he was fired as General Manager. Shortly after they had been eliminated from the Cup Playoffs, the St. Louis Blues announced that they had signed him to the posts of Vice President and General Manager. As expected, one of Emile's first moves was to appoint himself coach, returning Leo Boivin to his spot as chief scout.

'It's not a strange situation for me,' said Francis. 'I've always put pressure on myself.'

But can Francis do in St. Louis what he couldn't do in New York, namely, win the Stanley Cup?

The odds are he will find it even more difficult in coming close. And the main reason for that is that there are 18 teams in the league now whereas there were only six when he took over the Rangers.

In looking over the relative success of the New York Islanders over the past couple of years, it is evident that they had the fortune of being terrible at the right time. By being so, they were able to pick up a horde of fine, young talent. But the Blues (and the current Rangers for that matter) are somewhere in the middle. That means that the pick of the litter in the amateur draft has already been gobbled up by the neediest.

That leaves trades as the only means of bringing an instant winner to St. Louis. But Francis' trading record has been somewhat questionable down through the years, and one must also wonder how much the Salomons are willing to spend for some new hired hands in this age of where the most important statistic on a player is his salary and not his goal production.

Although the Blues have been a fairly successful franchise since birth, they have been an unstable one. No fewer than nine different individuals have paced behind the St. Louis bench, some like Lynn Patrick, Scotty Bowman, and Al Arbour on numerous occasions.

With Francis in total control, the Blues are almost certain to improve on their mediocrity of the past couple of years. St. Louis fans have lost that old spirit of the late 1960's when they greeted their team with a standing ovation everytime it hit the ice.

Emile Francis can restore that spirit.

Quite clearly, Francis has his work cut out for him. Under his guidance, the Blues should play fairly good hockey, but whether it will be good enough to move into serious contention for the Stanley Cup remains to be seen.

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...NHL: At The Crossroads

By FRANK BROWN

After a disturbing and embarrassing summer of indecision and seeming indifference by management, the National Hockey League's players will have to do what they can to restore the public faith their office leaders have lost.

NHL moguls dilly-dallied an unconscionably long time before deciding the fate of the Kansas City Scouts, leaving the new people in Denver far too little time to begin setting up an efficient front office operation. This is a team that couldn't sell tickets in its original home, was easily the league's weakest franchise last season, and by mid-August didn't even have a coach. Now it must make do with a thrown-together operation.

It's anybody's guess what possessed the Board of Governors to think a franchise that couldn't make it in Kansas City would do any kind of business in Denver, where the World Hockey Association's franchise died of loneliness. Ironically, the governors had maintained they did not want to be faced with having to bail the Kansas City club out of financial difficulty in the middle of the 1976-77 season as they had in the season past; but with all the strikes against the struggling new team in Denver, it would be a surprise that anything positive would happen this winter. The shift achieved nothing, except to save some jobs.

The future is rosier for the Cleveland Barons, who at least managed their transfer from California with a degree of professionalism and dignity. With one of the country's top arenas as their home and at least a temporary end to worries over what will happen in the years to come, the Barons finally have arrived as an NHL franchise.

But there remains a crisis over the fans who are thoroughly fed up with all of this financial foolishness, not to mention the continual political folderol over "violence" in this

violent sport, and—worst of all—hockey teams that absolutely can't play major league hockey.

You want to blame somebody for that? Blame the Montreal Canadiens. As long as they steadfastly insist on stockpiling players in the minors—players that could be helping any other club in the league; as long as they interfere with proposals for intra-league drafts and the equalization (at least to some extent) of player talent, then their Stanley Cup championship will be tarnished despite the greatness of their squad. They are strangling the sport by their actions, and don't expect that the league's Committee on Parity will be worth its weight in pucks unless the Canadiens are forced to knuckle under to the unencroachable importance of giving every city a representative hockey club.

To Montreal's credit, they restored the sagging confidence of the purists by winning the Stanley Cup in 13 games last May and—boasting virtually the same team with the addition of wing Rejean Houle—should repeat as league champs. It was the Canadiens who returned hockey to its proper level with a campaign of surpassing excellence; now it is they who must take the initiative to convince fans tired of off-ice hassles that the players still play the game for the public's benefit.

Whether that will be accomplished or not may hinge on a number of factors, not the least of which will be the return of Bobby Orr to the game for what—it is hoped—will be his first full season in some time. Compensation to Boston by Chicago for his signing still must be decided, of course, but the Black Hawks have proven themselves willing to pay the price for Orr and must take a further risk now by giving up players of stature commensurate with the star defenseman's ability to compete.

After playing in just 10 games last season, Orr may have to familiarize himself with the rulebook—considering the league's half-hearted efforts to curb "violence" with a number of rule changes. But how seriously can these changes be taken when the governors refused to accept the players' suggestion that fighting be banned entirely? What's going on here anyway?

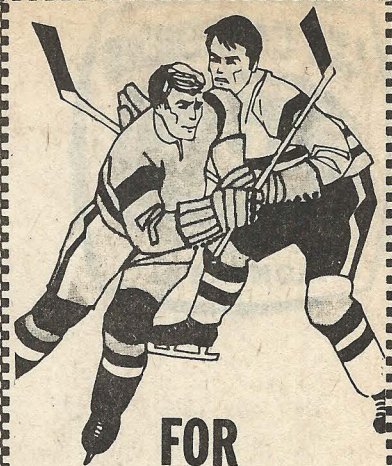
One thing the NHL has taken constructive steps to correct is the formation of their own television network under the direction of Carl Meyer. This served fans in good stead during the Russia-NHL series in 1975-76 and during the playoffs. This season, plans call for the NHL to televise a game of the week every Monday night starting in January and then pick up playoff action after regular season ends.

Final Standings 1975-1976

PRINCE OF WALES CONFERENCE								CLARENCE CAMPBELL CONFERENCE								
NORRIS DIVISION								PATRICK DIVISION								
	P	W	L	T	F	A	Pts		P	W	L	T	F	A	Pts	
Montreal . . .	80	58	11	11	337	174	127	Philadelphia . . .	80	51	13	16	348	209	118	
Los Angeles..	80	38	33	9	263	265	85	Islanders . . .	80	42	21	17	297	190	101	
Pittsburgh . .	80	35	33	12	339	303	82	Atlanta	80	35	33	12	262	237	82	
Detroit	80	26	44	10	226	300	62	Rangers	80	29	42	9	262	333	67	
Washington . .	80	11	59	10	224	394	32	SMYTHE DIVISION								
ADAMS DIVISION										P	W	L	T	F	A	Pts
	P	W	L	T	F	A	Pts	Chicago	80	32	30	18	254	261	82	
Boston	80	48	15	17	313	237	113	Vancouver . .	80	33	32	15	271	272	81	
Buffalo	80	46	21	13	339	240	105	St. Louis . . .	80	29	37	14	269	290	72	
Toronto	80	34	31	15	294	276	83	Minnesota . .	80	20	53	7	195	303	147	
California . .	80	27	42	11	250	278	65	Kansas City .	80	12	56	12	190	351	36	

1975-76 N.H.L. HOME & AWAY

Home Record								Away Record							
NORRIS DIVISION								NORRIS DIVISION							
	P	W	L	T	F	A	Pts		P	W	L	T	F	A	Pts
Montreal ..	40	32	3	5	193	85	69	Montreal ...	40	26	8	6	144	89	58
Pittsburgh ..	40	23	11	6	196	137	52	Los Angeles ..	40	16	20	4	122	155	36
Los Angeles ...	40	22	13	5	141	110	49	Pittsburgh ..	40	12	22	6	143	166	30
Detroit	40	17	15	8	137	123	42	Detroit	40	9	29	2	89	177	20
Washington ..	40	6	26	8	117	171	20	Washington ..	40	5	33	2	107	223	12
ADAMS DIVISION								ADAMS DIVISION							
	P	W	L	T	F	A	Pts		P	W	L	T	F	A	Pts
Boston ...	40	27	5	8	160	95	62	Boston	40	21	10	9	153	142	51
Buffalo	40	28	7	5	196	106	61	Buffalo	40	18	14	8	142	134	44
Toronto ...	40	23	12	5	158	114	51	Toronto ...	40	11	19	10	136	162	32
California ..	40	16	19	5	136	136	37	California ..	40	11	23	6	114	142	28
PATRICK DIVISION								PATRICK DIVISION							
	P	W	L	T	F	A	Pts		P	W	L	T	F	A	Pts
Philadelphia	40	36	2	2	205	79	74	Islanders ...	40	18	13	9	135	109	45
Islanders ...	40	24	8	8	162	81	56	Philadelphia	40	15	11	14	143	130	44
Atlanta	40	19	14	7	138	98	45	Atlanta	40	16	19	5	124	139	37
Rangers	40	16	16	8	134	136	40	Rangers	40	13	26	1	128	197	27
SMYTHE DIVISION								SMYTHE DIVISION							
	P	W	L	T	F	A	Pts		P	W	L	T	F	A	Pts
Vancouver ..	40	22	11	7	151	115	51	Chicago ...	40	15	15	10	177	127	40
St. Louis ...	40	20	12	8	154	125	48	Vancouver ..	40	11	21	8	120	157	30
Chicago ...	40	17	15	8	137	134	42	St. Louis ...	40	9	25	6	95	165	24
Minnesota ..	40	15	22	3	121	151	33	Minnesota ..	40	5	31	4	74	152	14
Kansas City .	40	8	24	8	114	166	24	Kansas City .	40	4	32	4	76	185	12



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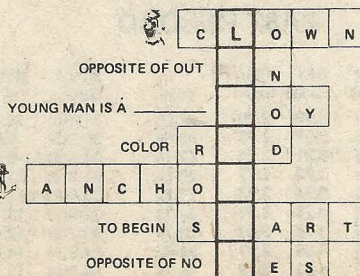
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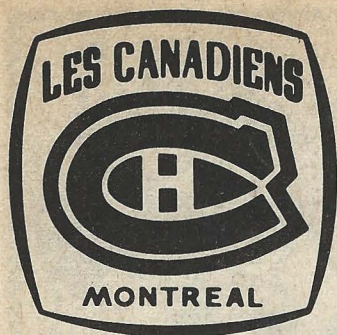
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Prince of Wales Conference Norris Division

ROUNDUPS

By FRANK BROWN

Teams in order of predicted finish.



SCOTTY BOWMAN

Montreal Canadiens

Les Canadiens sont la!

The team that dethroned the Philadelphia Flyers may well have been among the most complete and skilled in NHL history. A strong statement, indeed, but the facts speak for themselves.

It was a club that boasted the league's leading scorer in Guy Lafleur, the right wing who scored 56 goals—12 of them game-winners, 18 of them on the power play—not to mention the one at 14:18 of the third period that snapped a 3-3 tie and won the Cup in the final's fourth game.

It was a club that fulfilled Coach Scotty Bowman's preseason wish by winning the Vezina Trophy for the 20th time in the 50 years the prize has been awarded. Ken Dryden and Bunny Larocque were largely responsible for that, though the best defense in the game today cannot be overlooked—not with rearguards like Larry Robinson, Serge Savard, Guy Lapointe and Pierre Bouchard.

With protection like that, Dryden finished with a 2.03 goals-against average and eight of the club's 10 shutouts in the 62 games he played. Larocque picked up the odd game, and lost just once in the 20 regular season contests in which he was the

netminder of decision.

Indeed the only slight blemish on Dryden's superb season was a shaky performance against the Soviet Army team in the 3-3 tie on New Year's Eve. But that carries merely a bit of weight since the Canadiens won virtually everything else that matters with a true banner year.

Just look at the figures: only three losses in 40 home games, and only 8 in 40 games on the road; 337 goals scored, just 174 against on the way to 58 victories, 11 losses and 11 ties.

"Most definitely the best team I've ever played for," said center Pete Mahovlich between swigs of champagne in the Canadiens' dressing room that happy night in Philadelphia last May 16.

That was because everybody—yes EVERYBODY—did his share in leading Montreal through the proud season. Don't dare to think that just because the names of defensemen Don Awrey and John Van Boxmeer were left off the cherished chalice because they didn't play in the playoffs that they didn't do their share in the regular season to get the team a championship.

Sure the scorers were explosive

and effective—Lafleur led the league with 125 points, Mahovlich had 105, Steve Shutt had 45 goals while Yvan Cournoyer and Yvon Lambert had 32 each for a total of five players above the 30-goal mark.

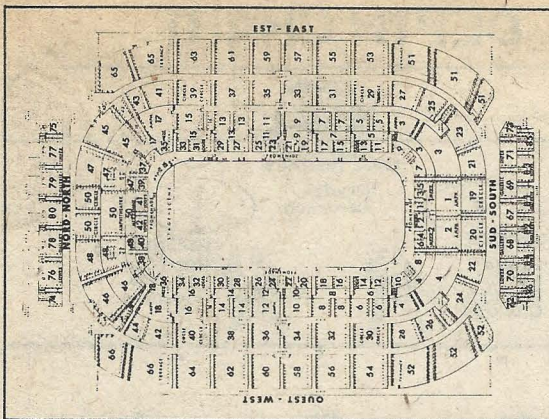
Sure the defense was unparalleled, dropping to block shots for their goalie, moving the puck from harm's reach by clearing the few rebounds the netminders surrendered. But don't forget also what every player said in the joyful dressing room after the Cup had been clinched: it was a team effort.

"During the regular season, the big scorers did a lot of the work," said Shutt. "But in the playoffs, it was the people I like to call the plumbers—the ones that did all the dirty work—who carried the club. Guys like Jim Roberts, Bob Gainey, Bouchard and Doug Jarvis. They never get much recognition, but they're the backbone of the team."

They're getting recognition here on these pages because each of them deserves it, and we'll probably be saying the same thing before next season after the Canadiens have copped their second Cup in a row.

PAST RECORD

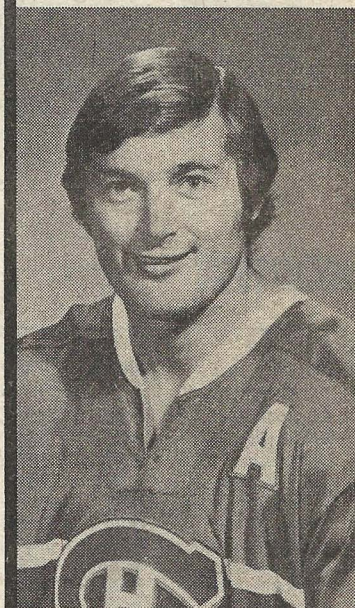
Year	W	L	T	Pts.	%	GF	GA	Plus or [Minus]	GF/ Game	GA/ Game	Year	Shts./ Game	Shtg. %	Power Play	Pen. Killed	Pen. Min./ Game	Finish	Playoff Result
67-68	42	22	10	94(1)	.635	236(3)	167(1)	69(1)	3.19	2.26	67-68	31.4(5)	10.2(2)	20.4(3)	83.4(5)	9.5(8)	1E	Won
68-69	46	19	11	103(1)	.678	271(3)	202(3)	69(2)	3.57	2.66	68-69	35.9(2)	9.9(3)	17.7(5)	82.8(7)	10.3(10)	1E	Won
69-70	38	22	16	92(4)	.605	244(5)	201(5)	43(6)	3.21	2.64	69-70	34.1(4)	9.4(5)	20.3(6)	81.8(4)	11.7(9)	5E	—
70-71	42	23	13	97(4)	.622	291(2)	216(6)	75(4)	3.73	2.77	70-71	32.8(3)	11.4(2)	24.8(3)	85.6(1)	16.2(3)	3E	Won
71-72	46	16	16	108(3)	.692	307(3)	205(5)	102(3)	3.94	2.63	71-72	33.6(2)	11.7(2)	27.1(2)	83.3(4)	10.0(13)	3E	L-QF
72-73	52	10	16	120(1)	.769	329(2)	184(1)	145(1)	4.22	2.36	72-73	32.0(8)	13.1(1)	21.7(4)	84.2(6)	10.0(14)	1E	Won
73-74	45	24	9	99(4)	.635	293(3)	240(7)	53(4)	3.76	3.08	73-74	30.2(9)	12.4(3)	20.1(6)	76.5(14)	9.3(15)	2E	L-QF
74-75	47	14	19	113(1)	.706	374(1)	225(4)	149(1)	4.68	2.81	74-75	31.9(7)	14.6(1)	26.3(4)	82.8(5)	14.4(5)	1N	L-SF
75-76	58	11	11	127(1)	.793	337(4)	174(1)	163(1)	4.21	2.18	75-76	34.2(2)	12.3(3)	26.6(3)	84.8(2)	12.2(13)	1N	Won



MONTREAL FORUM



Captain Yvan Cournoyer



Peter Mahovlich



Bob Gainey

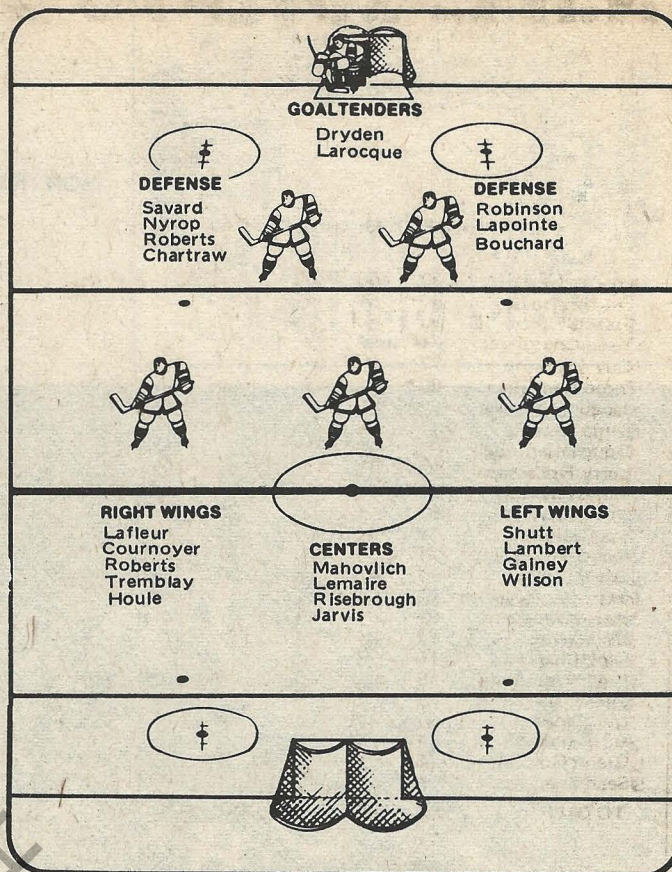


Guy Lafleur registered 56 goals and 69 assists en route to the Ross Trophy.



Ken Dryden's off-season knee surgery is a cause of concern.

DEPTH CHART



ROSTER

1976-77 MONTREAL CANADIENS						1975-76 Record		
Player	Hgt.	Wgt.	Place of Birth	Date of Birth	1975-76 Club	G	A	Pts.
FORWARDS								
Andruff, Ron	6.00	185	Port Alberni, B.C.	July 10, 1953	Nova Scotia	42	46	88
Baker, Bruce	6.01	188		April 19, 1956	Ottawa Jrs.	31	40	71
Cournoyer, Yvan	5.07	172	Drummondville, Que.	November 22, 1943	Montreal	32	36	68
Gagney, Bob	6.02	190	Peterborough, Ont.	December 13, 1953	Montreal	15	13	28
Greenback, Kelly	5.11	175	Wawota, Sask.	November 17, 1955	Nova Scotia	12	32	44
Jarvis, Doug	5.09	165	Peterborough, Ont.	March 24, 1955	Montreal	5	30	35
Houle, Rejean	5.11	165	Rouyn, Que.	October 25, 1949	Quebec (WHA)	51	52	103
Lafleur, Guy	6.00	180	Thurso, Que.	September 20, 1951	Montreal	54	69	125
Lambert, Yvon	6.00	195	Drummondville, Que.	May 20, 1950	Montreal	32	35	67
Lee, Peter	5.10	179		January 2, 1956	Ottawa Jrs.	81	80	161
Lemaire, Jacques	5.11	180	LaSalle, Que.	September 7, 1945	Montreal	20	32	52
Mahovlich, Peter	6.05	210	Timmins, Ont.	October 10, 1946	Montreal	34	71	105
Mondou, Pierre	5.11	175	Sorel, Que.	November 27, 1955	Nova Scotia	34	43	77
Polich, Mike					Nova Scotia	24	19	43
Risebrough, Doug	5.11	178	Kitchener, Ont.	January 1, 1954	Montreal	16	28	44
Roberts, Jim	5.10	185	Toronto, Ont.	April 9, 1940	Montreal	13	8	21
Schutt, Rod	5.10	187		October 13, 1956	Sudbury Jrs.	72	63	136
Shanahan, Sean	6.03	205	Toronto, Ont.	February 8, 1951	Nova Scotia	18	26	44
Shutt, Steve	5.11	180	Toronto, Ont.	July 1, 1952	Montreal	45	34	79
Tremblay, Mario	6.00	185	Montreal, Que.	September 2, 1956	Montreal	11	16	27
Wilson, Murray	6.01	180	Toronto, Ont.	August 3, 1951	Montreal	11	24	35
Woods, Paul	5.10	175	Milton, Ont.	April 12, 1955	Nova Scotia	17	21	38
DEFENSEMEN								
Bouchard, Pierre	6.02	205	Longueuil, Que.	February 20, 1948	Montreal	1	11	12
Chartraw, Rick	6.02	205	Caracas, Venez.	July 13, 1954	Mont.-Nova Scotia	1	3	4
Engblom, Brian	6.02	200	Winnipeg, Man	January 27, 1957	Nova Scotia	4	34	34
Lapointe, Guy	6.00	195	Montreal, Que.	March 18, 1948	Montreal	21	47	68
Luksa, Chuck	6.01	190	Toronto, Ont.	February 15, 1954	Nova Scotia	5	13	18
Lupien, Gilles	6.06	205	Lachute, Que.	April 20, 1954	Nova Scotia	2	6	8
Nyrop, Bill	6.02	205	Edina, Minn.	July 23, 1952	Mont.-Nova Scotia	0	3	3
Robinson, Larry	6.02	205	Winchester, Ont.	June 2, 1951	Montreal	10	30	40
Savard, Serge	6.03	210	Montreal, Que.	January 22, 1946	Montreal	8	39	47
Van Boxmeer, John	6.00	190	Sarnia, Ont.	November 20, 1952	Montreal	6	11	17
GOALTENDERS						Mins.	GA	SO
Dryden, Ken	6.04	215	Islington, Ont.	August 8, 1947	Montreal	3580	121	8
Ellenbaas, Dave	5.10	175	Scarborough, Ont.	February 20, 1952	Nova Scotia	2821	114	5
Larocque, Michel	5.10	185	Hull, Que.	April 6, 1952	Montreal	1220	50	2

N.H.L. 1975-76 Statistical Review

MONTREAL CANADIENS

	GP	G	A	PTS	S	SC PCTG	GW	GT	F	T	L	I	P	TOT	PCTG	IP	PCTG
Guy Lafleur	80	56	69	125	303	18.5	12	5	8	8	7	11	4	38	67.9	87	69.6
Pete Mahovlich	80	34	71	105	200	17.0	7	2	4	6	7	6	0	23	67.6	74	70.5
Steve Shutt	80	45	34	79	223	20.2	7	0	9	5	4	6	2	26	57.8	50	63.3
Yvan Cournoyer	71	32	36	68	163	19.6	12	0	5	8	7	6	2	28	87.5	50	73.5
Guy Lapointe	77	21	47	68	317	6.6	1	2	3	4	2	5	1	15	71.4	45	66.2
Yvon Lambert	80	32	35	67	156	20.5	4	0	1	9	4	5	2	21	65.6	47	70.1
Jacques Lemaire	61	20	32	52	226	8.8	3	1	6	1	0	4	3	14	70.0	37	71.2
Serge Savard	71	8	39	47	112	7.1	1	0	1	2	2	0	0	5	62.5	29	61.7
Doug Risebrough	80	16	28	44	143	11.2	3	0	1	1	1	3	0	6	37.5	20	45.5
Larry Robinson	80	10	30	40	130	7.7	0	1	1	1	1	3	2	8	80.0	29	72.5
Murray Wilson	59	11	24	35	73	15.1	1	0	3	0	1	2	1	7	63.6	21	60.0
Doug Jarvis	80	5	30	35	92	5.4	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	3	60.0	21	60.0
Bob Gainey	78	15	13	28	155	9.7	1	0	2	2	1	4	0	9	60.0	16	57.1
Mario Tremblay	71	11	16	27	94	11.7	2	0	1	1	2	3	0	7	63.6	13	48.1
Jim Roberts	74	13	8	21	80	16.3	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	5	38.5	10	47.6
John Van Boxmeer	46	6	11	17	88	6.8	1	0	1	1	0	3	1	6	100.0	16	94.1
Pierre Bouchard	66	1	11	12	72	1.4	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	100.0	5	41.7
Don Awrey	72	0	12	12	60	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	7	58.3
Rick Chartraw	16	1	3	4	22	4.5	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	100.0	3	75.0
Bill Nyrop	19	0	3	3	23	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	2	66.7
Michel Larocque	22	0	2	2	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	50.0
Ken Dryden	62	0	2	2	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	2	100.0
Ron Andruuff	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Glenn Goudup	3	0	0	0	1	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Sean Shanahan	4	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
TOTALS	80	337	556	893	2733	12.3	58	11	49	51	40	64	19	223	66.2	585	65.5

Code of abbreviations used are:

GP—Games Played.
G—Goals.
A—Assists.
PTS—Points
S—Shots On Goal.

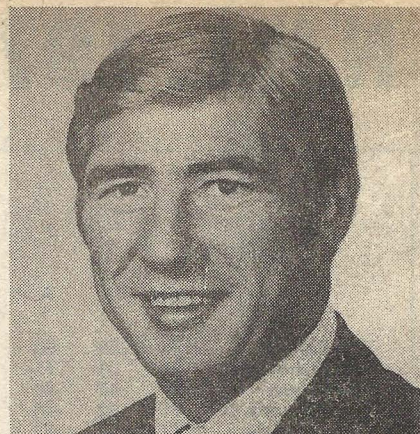
SC, PCTG.—Scoring Percentage.
GW—Game-Winning Goals.
GT—Game-Tying Goals.
F—First Goals of Game.
T—Score-Tying Goals.

L—Leading Goals.
I—Insurance Goals (puts team 2 goals ahead).
P—Proximate Goals (brings losing team to within one goal of opponent's

score. TOT—Total Important Goals.
PCTG.—Percentage of Important Goals to Goals Scored. IP—Important Points.
PCTG.—Percentage of Important Points to Total Points.

LOS ANGELES KINGS

	GP	G	A	PTS	S	SC PCTG	GW	GT	F	T	L	I	P	TOT	PCTG	IP	PCTG
Marcel Dionne	80	40	54	94	329	12.2	6	1	5	5	6	7	2	25	62.5	66	70.2
Butch Goring	80	33	40	73	193	17.1	2	1	6	5	4	4	2	21	63.6	50	68.5
Mike Murphy	80	26	42	68	205	12.7	5	2	4	1	4	4	5	18	69.2	49	72.1
Bob Nevin	77	13	42	55	121	10.7	0	1	2	3	1	3	0	9	69.2	40	72.7
Don Kozak	62	20	24	44	81	24.7	4	1	2	0	3	4	1	10	50.0	27	61.4
Vic Venasky	80	18	26	44	103	17.5	5	1	1	4	2	5	1	13	72.2	31	70.5
Mike Corrigan	71	22	21	43	135	16.3	4	0	5	5	2	3	3	18	81.8	31	72.1
Bob Berry	80	20	22	42	156	12.8	3	0	3	3	3	6	1	16	80.0	31	73.8
Tom Williams	70	19	20	39	157	12.1	2	1	3	1	5	3	2	14	73.7	24	61.5
Bob Murdoch	80	6	29	35	172	3.5	1	0	0	1	2	1	0	4	66.7	24	68.6
Frank St. Marseille	68	10	16	26	66	15.2	1	0	1	2	2	1	0	6	60.0	20	76.9
Gary Sargent	63	8	16	24	87	9.2	1	0	1	2	1	1	2	7	87.5	19	79.2
Whitey Widing	67	7	15	22	84	8.3	2	0	0	1	2	3	0	6	85.7	18	81.8
Gene Carr	38	8	11	19	61	13.1	1	1	1	2	1	3	0	7	87.5	17	89.5
Neil Komadoski	80	3	15	18	94	3.2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	66.7	12	66.7
S Kannegiesser	70	4	9	13	79	5.1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	50.0	8	61.5
Dave Hutchison	50	0	10	10	61	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	6	60.0
Ab Demarco	30	4	3	7	70	5.7	1	0	0	0	2	1	1	4	100.0	7	100.0
Larry Brown	74	2	5	7	49	4.1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	100.0	7	100.0
Dennis Abgrall	13	0	2	2	9	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	50.0
Bart Crashley	4	0	1	1	2	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Jim Witherspoon	2	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Bert Wilson	13	0	0	0	5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
TOTALS	80	263	423	686	2319	11.3	38	9	35	38	41	49	21	184	70.0	489	71.3



BOB PULFORD

Los Angeles Kings

Is second the only place for the Kings?

It was good to see the Los Angeles Kings do as well as they did last season after acquiring Marcel Dionne to put some fire in the attack and some fans in the frequently-spiderwebbed seats at the Forum. But let's face it: the attack is still too much a powder puff and the defense is decent, but undistinguished.

Put all that together and you've got a good but going nowhere hockey club, unless you care to place too much emphasis on the Kings' quarter-final playoff series with the Boston Bruins—a series that was thrilling to watch and overflowing with emotion-driven performances.

But again, let's face it: though the club has shown itself capable of down-to-earth, hard-fought hockey in the playoffs, there's no reason to believe they can remain at such a level during the rigors of an 80 game season.

They certainly didn't do it last year, winning only five more games than they lost and finishing a glamourless second behind Montreal. (EDITORS NOTE: Bear in mind, however, that the 85 points the Kings earned would have taken the title in the deathly dull Smythe Division).

Dionne's brilliance often was wasted on too frequent passes to too many unpolished teammates, and the "Little Beaver" took something of a beating from opposing defensemen while the team missed pounding power of its own.

Though it may be unfair to judge a team by its penalty minutes, only three Kings' players had more than 100 for the season (Dave Hutchison with 181 in 50 games, Neil Komadoski with 165 and Bob Murdoch with 103). That will give you an idea of their abilities to intimidate.

Don't get us wrong. We're not saying that goons will win Los Angeles a Stanley Cup, because it will take much more than that.

—It will take an enforcer on Dionne's line who can step in when the team's only legitimate star is being threatened.

—It will take better backchecking by the forwards who, though hard working and honest, often seemed left in the tracks of other, better-skating clubs.

—It will take a stronger power play, as last season's Kings converted just 18.3 percent of their opportunities but

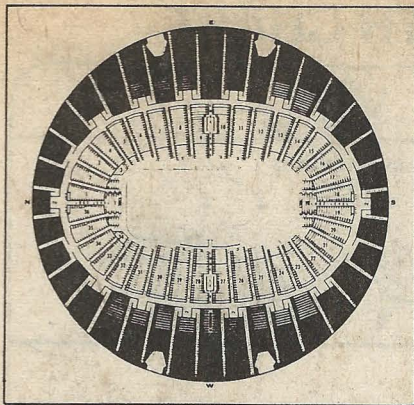
surrendered an embarrassing 12 goals while playing with a man advantage.

The club has some really good hockey players, among them goalie Rogie Vachon, digger Butch Goring and, of course, Dionne. But beyond that the material thins. Vachon was beyond belief at times against the Atlanta Flames and Boston in the playoffs, and that's to his credit for he got off to a crummy start in the regular season (he admitted as much). Goring never gives less than 200 percent, and it paid off in 33 goals and 40 assists.

It appears left to owner Jack Kent Cooke, who obtained Dionne over the reported protest of General Manager Jake Milford, to swing more deals of this miracle variety. Let's not forget that Dionne cost him Dan Maloney, who is the kind of player this team needs. LA did acquire Glenn Goldup, another of the number of young players buried in Halifax by the exceedingly selfish Montreal organization. The young left wing may be just what the doctor ordered, but he can't be expected to lift this team off the treadmill they always seem to be on during the regular season.

PAST RECORD

Year	W	L	T	Pts.	%	GF	GA	Player [Points]	GF/ Game	GA/ Game	Year	Shts./ Game	Shtg. %	Power Play	Pen. Killed	Pen. Min./ Game	Finish	Playoff Result
67-68	31	33	10	72(7)	.486	200(7)	224(10)	[24](10)	2.7	3.03	67-68	30.9(6)	8.8(8)	13.7(10)	80.3(11)	10.9(13)	2W	L-QF
68-69	24	42	10	58(10)	.382	185(11)	260(11)	[75](11)	2.43	3.42	68-69	31.9(8)	7.6(12)	12.9(12)	79.1(12)	9.2(11)	4W	L-SF
69-70	14	52	10	38(12)	.250	168(12)	290(12)	[122](12)	2.21	3.82	69-70	30.3(11)	7.3(12)	14.2(11)	77.5(10)	12.8(5)	8W	—
70-71	25	40	13	63(9)	.404	239(6)	303(12)	[64](10)	3.06	3.88	70-71	31.7(6)	9.7(6)	15.4(12)	76.2(13)	9.9(14)	5W	—
71-72	20	49	9	49(13)	.314	206(11)	305(14)	[99](14)	2.64	3.91	71-72	27.9(13)	9.4(8)	14.0(14)	76.2(14)	9.2(14)	7W	—
72-73	31	36	11	73(10)	.468	232(13)	245(9)	[13](10)	2.97	3.14	72-73	29.1(13)	10.2(9)	17.6(8)	86.5(1)	11.4(7)	6W	—
73-74	33	33	12	78(7)	.500	233(11)	231(5)	2(7)	2.99	2.96	73-74	29.0(11)	10.3(6)	15.1(13)	80.5(9)	13.5(4)	3W	L-QF
74-75	42	17	21	105(4)	.656	269(9)	185(2)	84(5)	3.36	2.31	74-75	29.2(13)	11.5(6)	18.2(12)	85.2(1)	14.8(4)	2N	LPR
75-76	38	33	9	85(6)	.531	263(10)	265(8)	[2](10)	3.29	3.31	75-76	29.0(13)	11.4(9)	18.3(14)	81.5(8)	12.8(10)	2N	L-QF



THE FORUM



Rogatien Vachon slipped a bit last year, but is still one of the N.H.L.'s top netminders.



Bob Berry



Mike Murphy

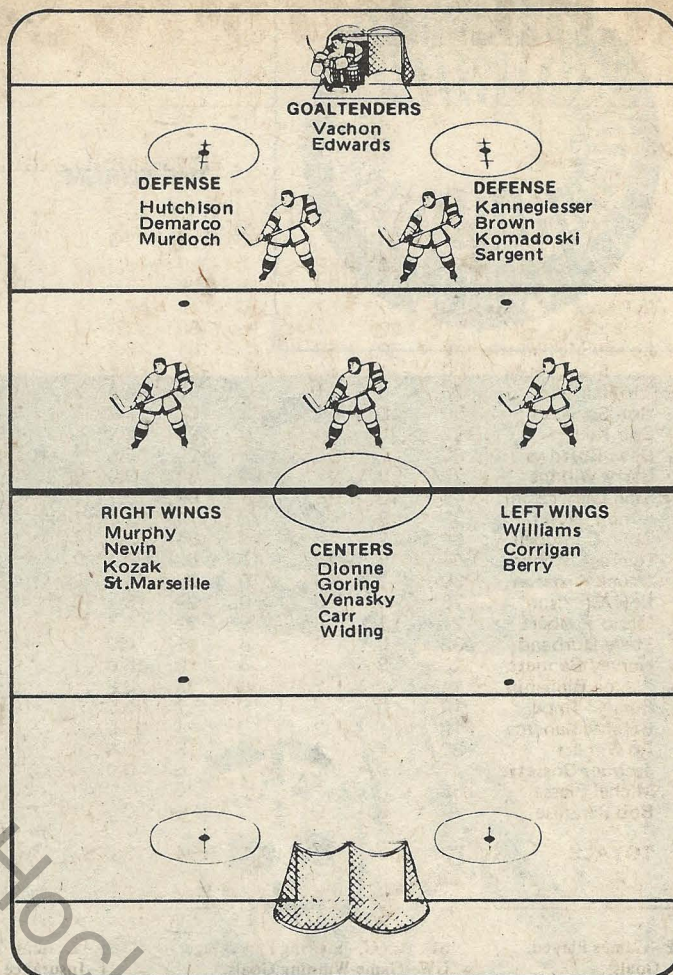


Gary Sargent



Butch Goring was the Kings' sudden-death hero in the playoffs.

DEPTH CHART



ROSTER

1976-77 LOS ANGELES

Player	Hgt.	Wgt.	Place of Birth	Date of Birth	1975-76 Club	1975-76 Record		
						G	A	Pts
FORWARDS								
Berry, Bob	6.00	190	Montreal, Que.	November 29, 1943	Los Angeles	20	22	42
Carr, Gene	5.11	185	Nanaimo, B.C.	September 17, 1951	Los Angeles	8	11	19
Cassidy, Tom	5.11	195	Blind River, Ont.	March 15, 1952	Oklahoma City	35	50	85
Clippingdale, Steve					New Westminster Jrs.	51	66	117
Corrigan, Mike	5.10	170	Ottawa, Ont.	January 11, 1946	Los Angeles	22	21	43
Dionne, Marcel	5.09	170	Drummondville, Que.	August 3, 1951	Los Angeles	40	54	94
Goldup, Glenn	6.00	187	St. Catharines, Ont.	April 26, 1953	Nova Scotia-Mont.	23	22	45
Goring, Butch	5.09	170	St. Boniface, Man.	October 22, 1949	Los Angeles	33	40	73
Hoene, Phil	5.09	180	Duluth, Minn.	March 15, 1949	Ft. Worth	13	22	35
Kozak, Don	5.11	190	Saskatoon, Sask.	February 2, 1952	Los Angeles	20	24	44
Moore, Don					Kamloops Jrs.	30	41	71
Murphy, Mike	6.00	180	Toronto, Ont.	September 12, 1950	Los Angeles	26	42	68
Nevin, Bob	6.00	190	S. Porcupine, Ont.	March 18, 1938	Los Angeles	13	42	55
Peters, Jimmy	6.02	185	Montreal, Que.	June 20, 1944	Ft. Worth	16	30	46
St. Marseille, Frank	5.11	170	Levack, Ont.	December 14, 1939	Los Angeles	10	16	26
Stamler, Lorne	6.00	190	Winnipeg, Man.	August 9, 1951	Ft. Worth	33	33	66
Venasky, Vic	5.10	175	Thunder Bay, Ont.	March 6, 1951	Los Angeles	18	26	44
Widing, Juha	6.01	190	Uleaborg, Finland	July 4, 1947	Los Angeles	7	15	22
Williams, Tom	5.11	180	Windsor, Ont.	February 7, 1951	Los Angeles	18	20	39
Wilson, Bert	6.00	180	Orangeville, Ont.	October 17, 1949	St. Louis-L.A.	2	3	5
DEFENSEMEN								
Brown, Larry	6.02	210	Brandon, Man.	April 14, 1947	Los Angeles	2	5	7
Crashley, Bart	6.00	180	Toronto, Ont.	June 15, 1946	Ft. Worth-L.A.	11	32	43
DeMarco, Ab	6.00	180	North Bay, Ont.	February 27, 1949	Vanc.-L.A.	7	11	18
Hutchison, Dave	6.03	205	London, Ont.	May 2, 1952	Los Angeles	0	10	10
Kannegiesser, Shel.	6.00	185	North Bay, Ont.	August 15, 1947	Los Angeles	4	19	13
Komadoski, Neil	6.00	200	Winnipeg, Man.	November 5, 1951	Los Angeles	3	15	18
Murdoch, Bob	6.00	190	Kirkland Lake, Ont.	May 17, 1947	Los Angeles	6	29	35
Sargent, Gary	5.11	210	Bimidji, Minn.	February 18, 1954	Los Angeles	8	16	24
Witherspoon, Jim	6.00	205	Newmarket, Ont.	October 22, 1951	Ft. Worth	0	13	13
GOALTENDERS						Mins.	GA	SO
Edwards, Gary	5.09	160	Toronto, Ont.	October 5, 1947	Los Angeles	1740	103	1
Vachon, Rogatien	5.07	165	Palmarolle, Que.	September 8, 1945	Los Angeles	3060	160	1

N.H.L. 1975-76 Statistical Review

PITTSBURGH PENGUINS

	GP	G	A	PTS	S	SC PCTG	GW	GT	F	T	L	I	P	TOT	PCTG	IP	PCTG
Pierre Larouche	76	53	58	111	319	16.6	3	2	7	9	3	6	5	30	56.6	63	56.8
Jean Pronovost	80	52	52	104	299	17.4	3	3	5	8	10	10	4	37	71.2	69	66.3
Syl Apps	80	32	67	99	210	15.2	4	3	2	8	5	6	3	24	75.0	63	63.6
Rick Kehoe	71	29	47	76	180	16.1	2	0	5	1	5	1	3	15	51.7	48	63.2
Lowell MacDonald	69	30	43	73	181	16.6	3	0	4	6	2	6	0	18	60.0	53	72.6
Ron Stackhouse	80	11	60	71	228	4.8	2	0	4	2	2	1	0	9	81.8	50	70.4
Vic Hadfield	76	30	35	65	203	14.8	2	1	3	5	5	3	2	18	60.0	43	66.2
Ron Schock	80	18	44	62	161	11.2	3	1	1	2	3	3	3	12	66.7	41	66.1
Bob Kelly	77	25	30	55	193	13.0	4	0	3	1	4	4	1	13	52.0	25	45.5
Dave Burrows	80	7	22	29	125	5.6	1	0	1	2	1	2	1	7	100.0	19	65.5
Barry Wilkins	75	0	27	27	68	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	16	59.3
Stan Gilbertson	48	13	8	21	86	15.1	1	0	2	1	1	2	2	8	61.5	13	61.9
Simon Nolet	39	9	8	17	74	12.2	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	22.2	8	47.1
Colin Campbell	64	7	10	17	64	10.9	2	0	1	1	1	1	1	5	71.4	12	70.6
Dennis Owchar	54	5	12	17	62	8.1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	3	60.0	11	64.7
Chuck Arnason	30	7	3	10	60	10.1	2	0	1	1	2	1	1	6	85.7	8	80.0
Lew Morrison	78	4	5	9	24	16.7	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	3	75.0	6	66.7
Mario Faubert	21	1	8	9	22	4.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	2	22.2
Steve Durbano	32	0	8	8	41	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	4	50.0
Harvey Bennett	25	3	3	6	20	15.0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	33.3	3	50.0
Wayne Bianchin	14	1	5	6	26	3.8	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	100.0	5	83.3
Ed Van Impe	12	0	5	5	7	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	3	60.0
Bob McManama	12	1	2	3	4	25.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	2	66.7
Ed Gilbert	38	1	1	2	18	5.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Jacques Cossette	7	0	2	2	6	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	50.0
Michel Plasse	56	0	2	2	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	50.0
Bob Paradise	9	0	0	0	4	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
TOTALS	80	339	567	906	2694	12.6	35	12	40	50	45	50	27	212	62.5	569	62.8

Code of abbreviations used are:

GP—Games Played.
G—Goals.
A—Assists.
PTS—Points
S—Shots On Goal.

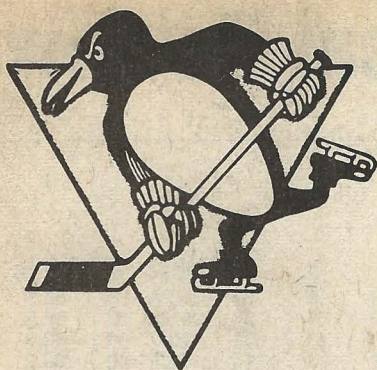
SC, PCTG.—Scoring Percentage.
GW—Game-Winning Goals.
GT—Game-Tying Goals.
F—First Goals of Game.
T—Score-Tying Goals.

L—Leading Goals.
I—Insurance Goals (puts team 2 goals ahead).
P—Proximate Goals (brings losing team to within one goal of opponent's

score. TOT—Total Important Goals.
PCTG.—Percentage of Important Goals to Goals Scored. IP—Important Points.
PCTG.—Percentage of Important Points to Total Points.

DETROIT RED WINGS

	GP	G	A	PTS	S	SC PCTG	GW	GT	F	T	L	I	P	TOT	PCTG	IP	PCTG
Walt McKechnie	80	26	56	82	186	14.0	7	2	4	3	5	6	2	20	76.9	57	69.5
Dan Maloney	77	27	39	66	254	10.6	3	1	3	3	2	2	7	17	63.0	43	65.2
Michel Bergeron	72	32	27	59	190	16.8	4	0	6	1	6	7	3	23	71.9	42	71.2
Nick Libett	80	20	26	46	224	8.9	3	1	1	4	1	4	1	11	55.0	26	56.5
Bill Hogaboam	50	21	16	37	116	18.1	0	2	4	4	2	0	3	13	61.9	23	62.2
Rick Lapointe	80	10	23	33	106	9.4	0	1	2	1	2	1	0	6	60.0	23	69.7
Terry Harper	69	8	25	33	111	7.2	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	3	37.5	19	57.6
Mike Bloom	76	13	17	30	130	10.0	1	0	3	0	0	4	4	11	84.6	22	73.3
Mickey Redmond	37	11	17	28	123	8.9	3	1	1	1	3	3	0	8	72.7	18	64.3
Dennis Polonich	57	11	12	23	97	11.3	0	0	2	3	1	0	0	6	54.5	17	73.9
Danny Grant	39	10	13	23	70	14.3	0	0	1	2	1	2	1	7	70.0	15	65.2
Bill Lothead	53	9	11	20	81	11.1	3	1	3	2	1	1	0	7	77.8	13	65.0
Bryan Watson	79	0	18	18	88	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	10	55.6
Buster Harvey	35	8	9	17	71	11.3	0	0	0	3	1	2	1	7	87.5	10	58.8
Dennis Hextall	17	5	9	14	32	15.6	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	40.0	9	64.3
J.P. LeBlanc	46	4	9	13	60	6.7	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	3	75.0	12	92.3
Barry Salovaara	63	2	11	13	57	3.5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	9	69.2
Jean Hamel	77	3	9	12	92	3.3	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	2	66.7	10	83.3
Al Cameron	38	2	8	10	59	3.4	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	50.0	7	70.0
Mike Korney	27	1	7	8	21	4.8	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	100.0	7	87.5
Phil Roberto	37	1	7	8	55	1.8	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	100.0	4	50.0
Bryan Hextall	21	0	4	4	17	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	3	75.0
Larry Giroux	10	1	1	2	9	11.1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	100.0	2	100.0
Mike Wong	22	1	1	2	9	11.1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	100.0	1	50.0
Jim Nahrgang	3	0	1	1	2	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Frank Bathe	7	0	1	1	1	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Don Martineau	9	0	1	1	1	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Ken Mann	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Brian Watts	4	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Brian McCutcheon	8	0	0	0	4	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
TOTALS	80	226	378	604	2272	9.9	26	10	32	31	28	37	23	151	66.8	405	67.1



KEN SCHINKEL

Pittsburgh Penguins

Pen's still need defense

A valid telling point about the Penguins last season is that it took a goal by Syl Apps with three seconds remaining in the campaign to beat the Detroit Red Wings 6-5 and insure that the team would finish above .500 for the year.

What does that tell you about a club that had two 50-goal scorers and three 30-goal scorers? You guessed it: a serious disregard for the other half of the ice, the one they're supposed to defend.

Well, it's up to Coach Ken Schinkel to rectify that situation. Schinkel was a pretty fair defensive player during his career and knows what needs to be done. It now is a matter of his convincing the Penguins, who have gained a reputation of sorts as a team which doesn't always heed its coaches' instruction.

Marc Boileau couldn't keep control last season, so management gassed him. There was talk of a row with goalie Gary Inness; there was talk of cliques in the clubhouse. That isn't going to win you a lot of hockey games, and it's a shame, because there's a lot of talent going to waste.

Pierre Larouche and Jean Pronovost were gangbusters. Each broke the half-century mark with 53 and 52 goals, respectively, and showed improvement in their defensive play. It may have been a facade, but Larouche really seemed concerned about defense in the latter stages of the season despite the pressures of a charge for the 50-goal and 100-point plateaus. The same may be said for Pronovost, who like Larouche is getting better every year.

Apps, of course, is a proven, high-caliber fellow-on and off the ice. That's despite the fact he went 22 games in a row without scoring and managed just six assists.

And there are other solid athletes: Rick Kehoe netted 29 goals, Lowell MacDonald had 30 and Vic Hadfield also had 30. The team was among the best on power plays but among the worst in the league at killing the time effectively.

But the unpardonable sin is there in black and white on the standings: the goals-against went up! From an awful 289 in 1974-75 to a ridiculous 303 last season. And, more embarrassing the

high-powered offense, which produced 337 goals, fizzled completely when it counted (in the playoffs) and managed exactly three goals in as many games in the loss to Toronto.

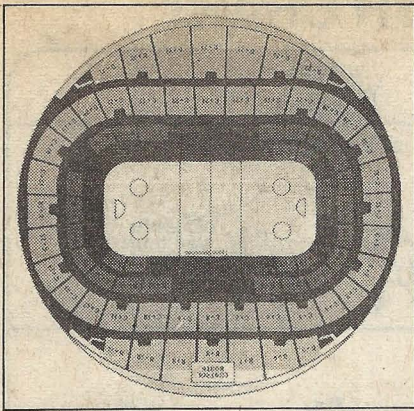
Wren Blair, the Pittsburgh major domo made a move to shore up the defense when he reacquired goalie Denis Herron from Denver, sending Michel Plasse, the regular goalie last season, defenseman Colin Campbell and winger Simon Nolet to the new team. Both Nolet and Plasse were Kansas City originals.

Schinkel hopes that Herron and former Flyer defenseman Ed Van Impe can turn things around with the help of Dave Burrows, Barry Wilkins and Ron Stackhouse. The recent acquisition of veteran Don Awrey from Montreal lends a touch of class.

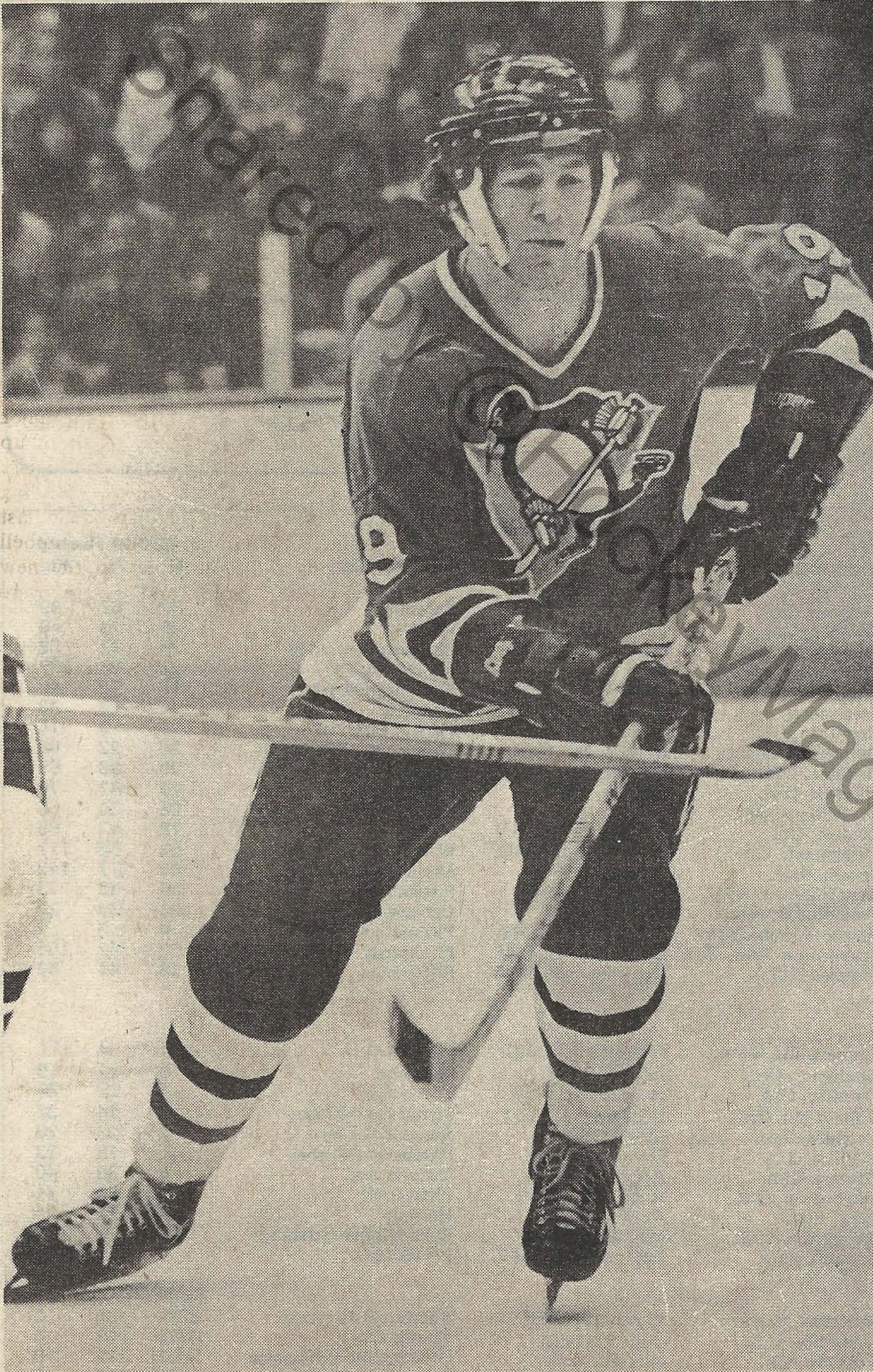
Things weren't helped much by the fact that the Penguins signed top draft choice Blair Chapman, a 71-goal scorer last season for the Saskatoon Blades of the Western Canada Hockey League. It's all well and good that his signing puts another bullet into the Penguins' scoring pistol; it just appears they'd have done better to draft higher for defense.

PAST RECORD

Year	W	L	T	Pts.	%	GF	GA	Plus or [Minus]	GF/ Game	GA/ Game	Year	Shts./ Game	Shtg. %	Power Play	Pen. Killed	Pen. Min./ Game	Finish	Playoff Result
67-68	27	34	13	67(10)	.453	195(8)	216(7)	[21] (9)	2.64	2.92	67-68	30.8(7)	8.6(9)	13.55(11)	84.6(3)	7.5(12)	5W	—
68-69	20	45	11	51(11)	.336	189(9)	252(10)	[63] (10)	2.49	3.32	68-69	29.4(10)	8.4(8)	16.5 (7)	83.5(5)	8.7(12)	5W	—
69-70	26	38	12	64(8)	.421	182(10)	238(8)	[56] (10)	2.39	3.13	69-70	31.4(8)	7.6(11)	16.8 (9)	76.6(12)	13.7(3)	2W	L-S-F
70-71	21	37	20	62(11)	.397	221(9)	240(8)	[19] (8)	2.83	3.08	70-71	32.8(3)	8.8(11)	17.6 (9)	82.6(8)	13.8(8)	6W	—
71-72	26	38	14	66(9)	.423	220(6)	258(9)	[38] (9)	2.82	3.31	71-72	31.3(6)	9.0(9)	16.1 (11)	77.6(10)	12.5(7)	4W	L-Q-F
72-73	32	37	9	73(10)	.468	257(8)	265(12)	[8] (9)	3.29	3.40	72-73	32.1(7)	10.2(9)	17.3 (9)	81.4(8)	11.1(10)	5W	—
73-74	28	41	9	65(11)	.417	242(8)	273(12)	[31] (10)	3.10	3.50	73-74	31.6(5)	9.8(11)	17.0 (11)	80.8(8)	12.1(7)	5W	—
74-75	37	28	15	89(6)	.556	326(4)	289(12)	37 (8)	4.08	3.61	74-75	34.5(3)	11.8(4)	19.2 (9)	81.2(8)	14.0(7)	3N	L-Q-F
75-76	35	33	12	82(8)	.513	339(2)	303(14)	36 (6)	4.24	3.79	75-76	33.9(3)	12.5(2)	24.4 (6)	76.7(11)	12.6(11)	3N	L-P-R



CIVIC ARENA



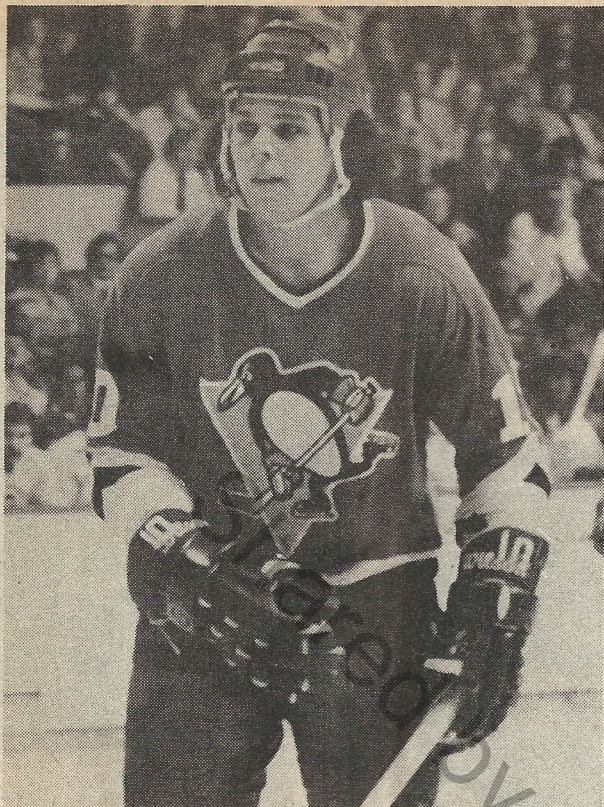
Jean Pronovost has scored 135 goals over the past three seasons.



Don Awrey

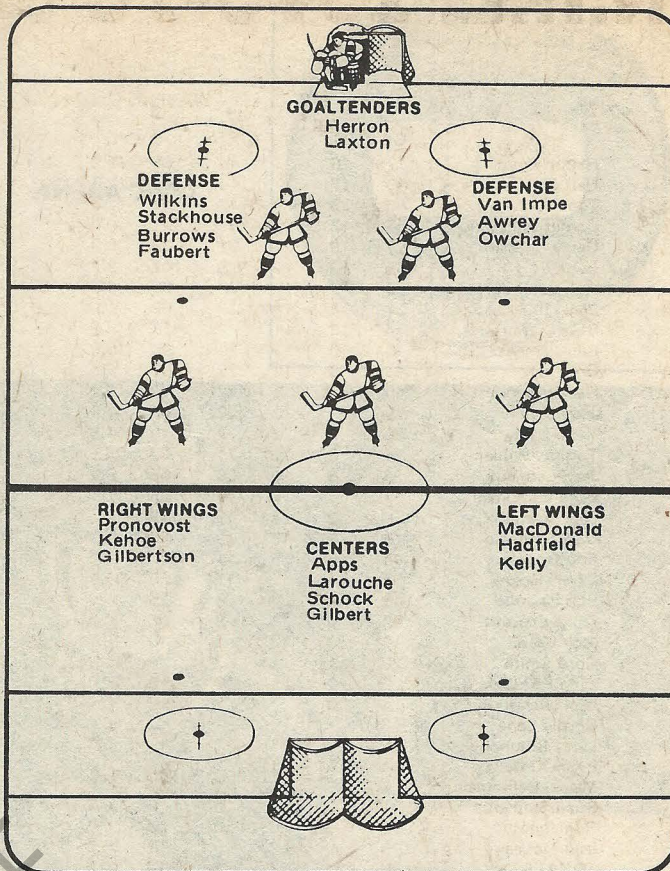


Denis Herron



Baby-faced Pierre Larouche was fifth in the N.H.L. scoring race last year.

DEPTH CHART



ROSTER

1976-77 PITTSBURGH PENGUINS

Player	Hgt.	Wgt.	Place of Birth	Date of Birth	1975-76 Club	1975-76 Record		
						G	A	Pts
FORWARDS								
Apps, Syl	6.00	195	Toronto, Ont.	August 1, 1947	Pittsburgh	32	67	99
Bergeron, Yves	5.09	165	Malartic, Que	January 11, 1952	Hershey	26	23	49
Bianchin, Wayne	5.10	180	Nanaimo, B.C.	September 6, 1953	Pittsburgh-Hershey	25	27	52
Chapman, Blair	6.00	190	Lloydminster, Sask.	June 13, 1956	Saskatoon Jrs.	71	86	157
Cossette, Jacques	5.08	185	Rouyn-Noranda Que.	June 20, 1954	Pittsburgh-Hershey	18	22	40
Debenedet, Nelson	6.01	205	Cardenona, Italy	December 31, 1947	Hershey	14	19	33
Gilbert, Ed	6.00	185	Hamilton, Ont.	March 12, 1952	Kansas City-Pittsburgh	5	9	14
Gilbertson, Stan	6.00	175	Duluth, Minnesota	October 29, 1944	Washington-Pittsburgh	26	22	48
Hadfield, Vic	6.00	190	Oakville, Ont.	October 4, 1940	Pittsburgh	30	35	65
Kehoe, Rick	5.11	180	Windsor, Ont.	July 15, 1951	Pittsburgh	29	47	76
Kelly, Bob	6.02	195	Ft. William, Ont.	June 6, 1946	Pittsburgh	25	30	55
Laframboise, Peter	6.02	185	Ottawa, Ont.	January 18, 1950	Hershey	18	47	65
Larouche, Pierre	5.11	175	Taschereau, Que.	November 16, 1955	Pittsburgh	53	58	111
Lukowich, Morris	5.08	170	Speers, Sask.	June 1, 1956	Medicine Hat Jrs.	65	77	142
MacDonald, Lowell	5.11	185	New Glasgow, N.S.	August 30, 1941	Pittsburgh	30	43	73
Malone, Greg	6.00	190	Fredericton, N.B.	March 8, 1956	Oshawa Jrs.	36	36	72
Morrison, Lew	6.00	185	Gainsborough, Sask.	February 11, 1948	Pittsburgh	4	5	9
Pronovost, Jean	6.00	185	Shawinigan Falls, Que.	December 18, 1945	Pittsburgh	52	52	104
Schock, Ron	5.11	180	Chapleau, Ont.	December 19, 1943	Pittsburgh	18	44	62
DEFENSEMEN								
Anderson, Russ	6.03	210	Minneapolis, Minn.	February 12, 1955	Minnesota U.	2	9	11
Awrey, Don	6.00	190	Kitchener, Ont.	July 18, 1943	Montreal	0	12	12
Burrows, Dave	6.01	190	Toronto, Ont.	January 11, 1949	Pittsburgh	7	22	29
Faubert, Mario	6.01	175	Valleyfield, Que.	December 2, 1954	Pittsburgh-Hershey	8	24	32
Lowe, Brendan	6.03	180	Lachute, Que.	May 23, 1956	Sherbrooke Jrs.	3	23	26
Owchar, Dennis	5.11	190	Dryden, Ont.	March 28, 1953	Pittsburgh-Hershey	10	13	23
Sirko, Vic	5.11	190	Oshawa, Ont.	April 8, 1956	Oshawa Jrs.	1	39	40
Stackhouse, Ron	6.03	210	Haliburton, Ont.	August 26, 1949	Pittsburgh	11	60	71
Stumpf, Bob	6.01	195	Milo, Alta.	April 25, 1953	Hershey	2	22	24
Van Impe, Ed	5.10	205	Saskatoon, Sask.	May 27, 1940	Philadelphia-Pittsburgh	0	13	13
Wilkins, Barry	5.11	190	Toronto, Ont	February 29, 1947	Pittsburgh	0	27	27
GOALTENDERS						Mins.	GA	SO
Laxton, Gordon	5.10	195	Montreal, Que.	March 16, 1955	Pittsburgh-Hershey	2271	135	0
Herron, Denis	5.10	165	Chambly, Que.	July 18, 1952	Kansas City	3620	243	0
Redquest, Greg	5.10	191	Toronto, Ont.	July 30, 1956	Philadelphia-Pittsburgh	2052	217	0
Taylor, Bob	6.01	180	Calgary, Alta.	January 24, 1945	Springfield-Richmond	1752	126	0

N.H.L. 1975-76 Statistical Review

WASHINGTON CAPITALS

	GP	G	A	PTS	S	SC	PCTG	GW	GT	F	T	L	I	P	TOT	PCTG	IP	PCTG
Nelson Pyatt	77	26	23	49	151	17.2	0	2	3	4	6	2	4	19	73.1	40	81.6	
Hart Monahan	80	17	29	46	142	12.0	2	1	1	6	3	0	2	12	70.6	36	78.3	
Tony White	80	25	17	42	168	14.9	2	0	3	6	4	2	4	19	76.0	29	69.0	
Garnet Bailey	67	13	19	32	131	9.9	2	0	2	2	2	4	1	11	84.6	27	84.4	
Gerry Meehan	32	16	15	31	80	20.0	0	0	2	6	1	1	1	11	68.8	25	80.6	
Bob Sirois	43	10	19	29	109	9.2	0	3	0	5	2	1	1	9	90.0	19	65.5	
Ron Lalonde	80	9	19	28	92	9.8	0	0	1	2	1	1	0	5	55.6	18	64.3	
Stan Gilbertson	31	13	14	27	62	21.0	0	2	1	3	1	3	2	10	76.9	22	81.5	
Blair Stewart	74	13	14	27	88	14.8	0	0	3	2	2	1	2	10	76.9	21	77.8	
Bill Clement	46	10	17	27	95	10.5	0	0	1	1	1	0	3	6	60.0	18	66.7	
Greg Joly	54	8	17	25	81	9.9	1	0	1	2	0	1	2	6	75.0	20	80.0	
Harvey Bennett	49	12	10	22	72	16.7	1	1	0	2	1	5	3	11	91.7	19	86.4	
Jack Lynch	79	9	13	22	126	7.1	1	1	1	3	0	2	0	6	66.7	15	68.2	
Yvon Labre	80	2	20	22	110	1.8	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	100.0	20	90.9	
Tommy Williams	34	8	13	21	39	20.5	0	0	2	3	2	0	0	7	87.5	17	81.0	
Jean Lemieux	33	6	14	20	65	9.2	1	0	2	2	1	0	0	5	83.3	13	65.0	
Mike Lampman	27	7	12	19	55	12.7	1	0	3	1	1	0	0	5	71.4	12	63.2	
Pete Scamurra	58	2	13	15	49	4.1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	100.0	13	86.7	
Rick Bragnalo	19	2	10	12	28	7.1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	50.0	7	58.3	
Bob Gryp	46	6	5	11	52	11.5	0	0	0	1	0	1	3	5	83.3	7	63.6	
Mike Marson	57	4	7	11	35	11.4	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	50.0	5	45.5	
Bob Paradise	48	0	8	8	26	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	8	100.0	
Willie Brossart	49	0	8	8	36	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	7	87.5	
Jack Egers	12	3	3	6	18	16.7	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	33.3	3	50.0	
Gord Smith	25	1	2	3	10	10.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	100.0	2	66.7	
John Paddock	8	1	1	2	5	20.0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	100.0	1	50.0	
Paul Nicholson	14	0	2	2	10	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	50.0	
Gordie Lane	3	1	0	1	2	50.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	
Larry Bolonchuk	1	0	1	1	1	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100.0	
Brian Kinsella	4	0	1	1	11	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100.0	
Michel Belhumeur	7	0	1	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100.0	
Brian Stapleton	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	
Ron Jones	2	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	
Don McLean	9	0	0	0	4	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	
TOTALS	80	224	347	571	1953	11.5	11	10	29	55	28	26	29	167	74.6	428	75.0	

Code of abbreviations used are:

GP—Games Played.

G—Goals.

A—Assists.

PTS—Points

S—Shots On Goal.

SC, PCTG.—Scoring Percentage.

GW—Game-Winning Goals.

GT—Game-Tying Goals.

F—First Goals of Game.

T—Score-Tying Goals.

L—Leading Goals.

I—Insurance Goals (puts team 2 goals ahead).

P—Proximate Goals (brings losing team to within one goal of opponent's

score. TOT—Total Important Goals.

PCTG.—Percentage of Important Goals to Goals Scored. IP—Important Points.

PCTG.—Percentage of Important Points to Total Points.

BOSTON BRUINS

	GP	G	A	PTS	S	SC	PCTG	GW	GT	F	T	L	I	P	TOT	PCTG	IP	PCTG
Jean Ratelle	67	31	59	90	186	16.7	3	1	6	7	2	8	5	28	90.3	69	76.7	
John Bucyk	77	36	47	83	151	23.8	9	2	4	7	8	8	1	28	77.8	62	74.7	
Gregg Sheppard	70	31	43	74	222	14.0	4	0	7	7	5	4	3	26	83.9	61	82.4	
Wayne Cashman	80	28	43	71	169	16.6	6	4	3	4	9	7	1	24	85.7	58	81.7	
Bobby Schmautz	75	28	34	62	243	11.5	7	3	1	5	7	5	3	21	75.0	45	72.6	
Ken Hodge	72	25	36	61	161	15.5	5	2	3	3	0	10	0	16	64.0	45	73.8	
Brad Park	43	16	37	53	163	9.8	2	0	4	3	1	2	2	12	75.0	45	84.9	
Terry O'Reilly	80	23	27	50	135	17.0	2	0	6	6	2	3	0	17	73.9	39	78.0	
Andre Savard	79	17	23	40	182	9.3	3	3	3	2	6	1	1	13	76.5	28	70.0	
Don Marcotte	58	16	20	36	96	16.7	2	1	3	0	2	5	2	12	75.0	26	72.2	
Dallas Smith	77	7	25	32	125	5.6	0	0	2	1	0	2	2	7	100.0	23	71.9	
Dave Forbes	79	16	13	29	165	9.7	1	0	1	2	1	1	0	5	31.3	16	55.2	
Doug Gibson	50	7	18	25	41	17.1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	3	42.9	15	60.0	
Darryl Edestrand	77	4	17	21	131	3.1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	3	75.0	15	71.4	
Bobby Orr	10	5	13	18	57	8.8	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	60.0	10	55.6	
Phil Eposito	12	6	10	16	57	10.5	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	3	50.0	10	62.5	
Hank Nowak	66	7	3	10	60	11.7	1	0	0	1	2	1	0	4	57.1	5	50.0	
Joe Zanussi	60	1	7	8	77	1.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	100.0	5	62.5	
Al Sims	48	4	3	7	61	6.6	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	4	100.0	5	71.4	
Carol Vadnais	12	2	5	7	33	6.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	50.0	4	57.1	
Gary Doak	58	1	6	7	70	1.4	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	100.0	4	57.1	
Doug Halward	22	1	5	6	30	3.3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	100.0	6	100.0	
Barry Smith	19	1	0	1	8	12.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	
Kent Ruhnke	2	0	1	1	2	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100.0	
Earl Anderson	5	0	1	1	5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	
Al Simmons	7	0	1	1	6	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100.0	
Gord Clark	7	0	1	1	3	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100.0	
Rick Adduono	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	
Paul O'Neil	1	0	0	0	1	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	
Stan Jonathan	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	
Ray Maluta	2	0	0	0	2	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	
Mike Milbury	3	0	0	0	2	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	
Steve Langdon	4	0	0	0	2	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0	
TOTALS	80	313	498	811	2647	11.8	48	17	54	54	48	63	21	233	74.4	599	73.9	



ALEX DELVECCHIO

Detroit Red Wings

Redmond, Grant comebacks the key

It seems unfortunate that the biggest victory in Detroit's sorry season came not on the ice but in the law courts last June. But when powerful left wing Dan Maloney was found guiltless in the alleged assault on Toronto defenseman Brian Glennie last winter, it was a triumph that meant two points for hockey's right to police itself without interference from publicity-seeking politicians.

Sadly, it was one of the few things worth noting about the Wings' shameful year in 1975-76. The team's top scorer, Walt McKechnie, produced just 82 points on 26 goals and 56 assists and their best goals-against average was Eddie Giacomin's 3.40 in 29 games (though it should be noted that Jim Rutherford had four shutouts behind an often porous defense).

Still, there are a few pleasant things to think about for the campaign ahead, though by no means are they sufficient to inspire hope for a playoff berth in one of the league's more volatile divisions.

There is comeback hope for Mickey Redmond and Danny Grant, both of whom have had 50-goal seasons in the past but were reduced to mere memories by serious surgery and long periods of recuperation last year.

There is hope that youngsters like Michel Bergeron (32 goals), can lead the forward corps to scoring levels above last year's disappointment. There just wasn't enough firepower, though there is a fair amount of potential.

Dennis Polonich, a center-wing; left wing Mike Bloom; left wing Bill Lochead and defenseman Rick Lapointe can accept the challenge of pulling the club out of the doldrums. If they get a little help from the guys who have been around for a while.

One of those guys is "Cyclone" Maloney, as the players like to call him. Easily the most valuable player on the Wings last season, Maloney was second on the team in scoring with 27-39-66, but more important was the king of "Don't mess with my teammates" kind of figure lacking on

many teams. Except Maloney isn't just a policeman; much like the Rangers' Steve Vickers, he's an enforcer with talent.

It became clear that though the Wings were hard pressed to hold their own while the games were in progress, they could easily hold their own when the going got physical. Polonich collected 302 penalty minutes, Maloney 205, Bryan Watson 322.

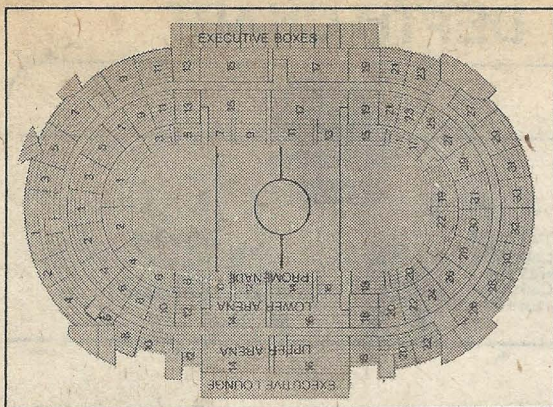
That's swell, if you want to win the heavyweight title. But players get awfully tired killing that many penalties and it might be wiser to concentrate energies towards winning games than fighting. You won't hear any complaints from owner Bruce Norris, though.

"This year, we've become a physical team and that's something I've looked for for a long time," he said after the campaign had closed.

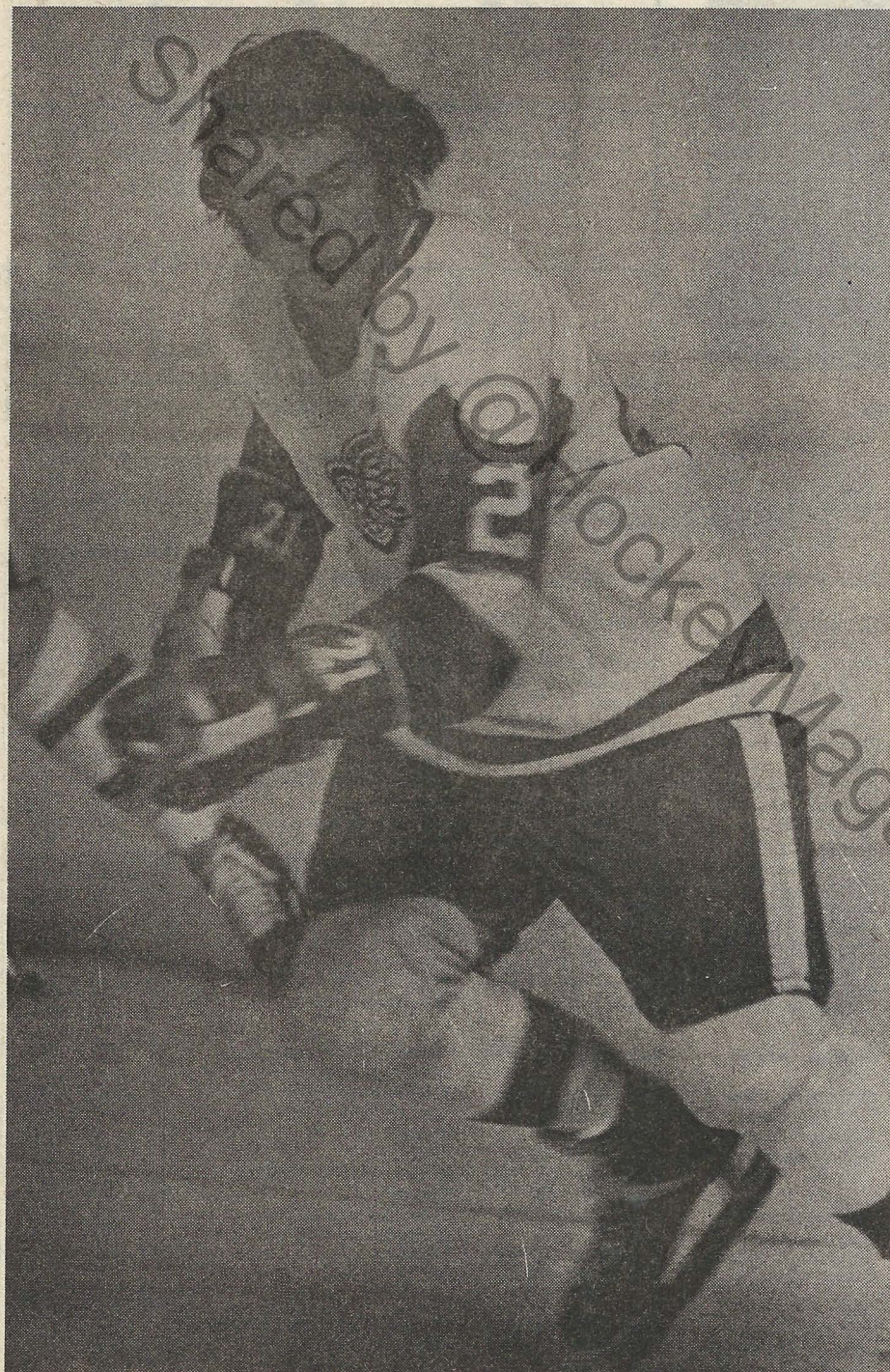
Maybe, at this time next year, he'll be able to say, "This year we've become a competitive team..." It will be a long, uphill battle to consistency.

PAST RECORD

Year	W	L	T	Pts.	%	GF	GA	Plus or [Minus]	GF/ Game	GA/ Game	Year	Shts./ Game	Shtg. %	Power Play	Pen. Killed	Pen. Min./ Game	Finish	Playoff Result
67-68	27	35	12	66(11)	.446	245(2)	257(12)	[12] (7)	3.31	3.47	67-68	33.2(3)	10.0(3)	19.2(4)	80.0(12)	10.3(6)	6E	—
68-69	33	31	12	78(7)	.513	239(4)	221(6)	18 (6)	3.14	2.91	68-69	32.8(5)	9.6(5)	17.4(6)	79.5(11)	11.6(4)	5E	—
69-70	40	21	15	95(3)	.625	246(3)	199(4)	47 (4)	3.24	2.62	69-70	33.8(5)	9.6(5)	21.4(3)	81.0(7)	11.9(6)	3E	L-Q-F
70-71	22	45	11	55(13)	.353	209(11)	308(13)	[99] (13)	2.68	3.95	70-71	31.6(7)	8.5(12)	19.6(5)	76.8(12)	12.6(10)	7E	—
71-72	33	35	10	76(7)	.487	261(4)	262(10)	[1] (7)	3.35	3.36	71-72	31.0(8)	10.8(5)	20.7(4)	82.6(5)	10.8(10)	5E	—
72-73	37	29	12	86(6)	.551	265(6)	243(8)	22 (8)	3.40	3.12	72-73	32.9(6)	10.3(6)	19.8(6)	84.7(3)	11.4(6)	5E	—
73-74	29	39	10	68(10)	.436	255(7)	319(15)	[64] (13)	3.27	4.09	73-74	29.8(10)	10.9(5)	21.5(5)	79.4(11)	11.7(8)	6E	—
74-75	23	45	12	58(14)	.363	259(13)	335(16)	[76] (14)	3.24	4.19	74-75	29.3(12)	11 (9)	21.6(6)	80.1(9)	13.5(13)	4N	—
75-76	26	44	10	62(15)	.388	226(15)	300(13)	[74] (15)	2.83	3.75	75-76	28.4(15)	10 (15)	15.3(15)	79.6(10)	24.0(2)	4N	—



OLYMPIA STADIUM



The Red Wings are looking for a big comeback by Danny Grant.



Dan Maloney



Eddie Giacomin

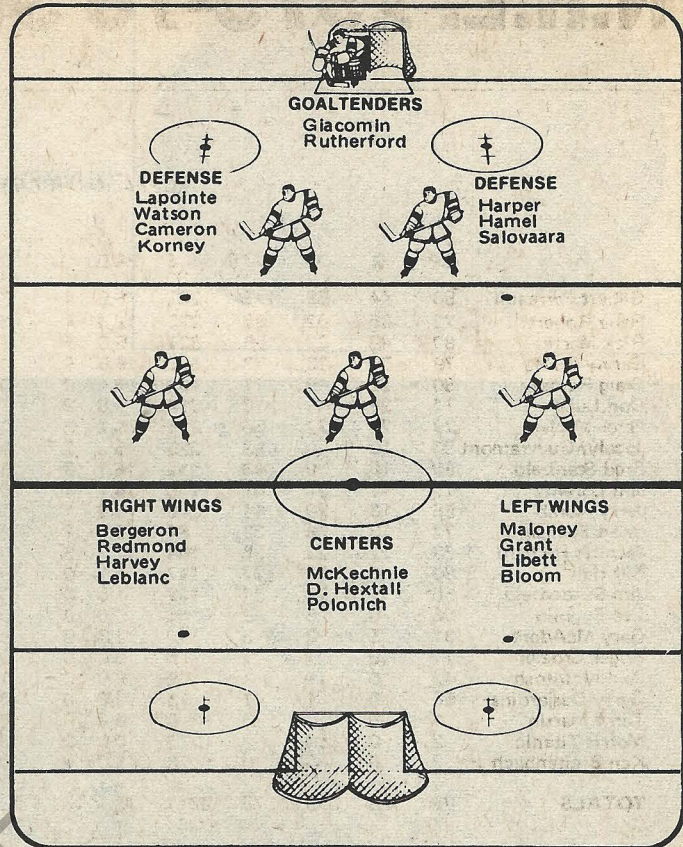


Walt McKechnie



Goaltender Jim Rutherford.

DEPTH CHART



ROSTER

1976-77 DETROIT RED WINGS

						1975-76 Record		
Player	Hgt.	Wgt.	Place of Birth	Date of Birth	1976-76 Club	G	A	Pts.
FORWARDS								
Bergeron, Michel	5.10	170	Chicoutimi, Que.	November 11, 1954	Detroit	32	27	59
Bloom, Mike	6.03	205	Ottawa, Ontario	April 12, 1952	Detroit	13	17	30
Burdon, Glen	6.02	173	Regina, Sask	August 4, 1954	New Haven	1	5	6
Drolet, Rene	5.07	155	Quebec City, Quebec	November 19, 1944	Rochester	23	40	63
Grant, Dan	5.10	188	Fredericton, N.B.	February 21, 1946	Detroit	10	13	23
Harvey, Fred	6.00	185	Fredericton, N.B.	February 4, 1950	Atlanta-K.C.-Detroit	13	21	34
Hextall, Dennis	5.11	175	Winnipeg, Manitoba	April 17, 1943	Minnesota-Detroit	16	44	60
Krieger, Robert	5.11	186	Edina, Minnesota	October 5, 1952	New Haven	0	0	0
Leblanc, Jean-Paul	5.10	170	South Durham, Quebec	October 20, 1946	Denver (WHA)-Detroit	4	9	13
Libett, Nick	6.01	185	Stratford, Ontario	December 9, 1945	Detroit	20	26	46
Lochead, Bill	6.01	195	Forest, Ontario	October 13, 1954	New Haven-Detroit	26	24	50
Maloney, Dan	6.02	185	Barrie, Ontario	September 24, 1950	Detroit	27	39	66
Mann, Kenneth	5.11	200	Hamilton, Ontario	September 5, 1953	Kalamazoo-Detroit	39	35	74
Martineau, Don	6.00	190	Kimberly, B.C.	April 25, 1952	New Haven-Detroit	15	21	35
McCutcheon, Brian	5.10	177	Toronto, Ont.	August 3, 1949	New Haven-Detroit	27	19	46
McKechnie, Walt	6.02	195	London, Ontario	June 19, 1947	Detroit	26	56	82
Polonich, Dennis	5.06	166	Foam Lake, Sask.	December 4, 1953	Kalamazoo-Detroit	12	21	33
Redmond, Mickey	5.11	185	Kirkland Lake, Ontario	December 27, 1947	Detroit	11	17	28
Wong, Mike	6.03	204	Minneapolis, Minnesota	January 14, 1955	Kalamazoo-Detroit	21	23	44
Williams, Fred	5.11	178	Saskatoon, Sask.	July 1, 1956	Saskatoon Jrs.	31	68	119
DEFENSEMEN								
Bathe, Frank	6.00	185	Oshawa, Ontario	September 27, 1954	Detroit-New Haven-Kalamazoo-Pt. Huron	2	10	12
Cameron, Al	6.01	190	Edmonton, Alberta	October 21, 1955	Kalamazoo-Detroit	5	27	32
Giroux, Larry	6.00	190	Weyburn, Sask.	August 28, 1951	Detroit-New Haven	2	24	26
Hamel, Jean	5.11	185	Asbestos, Quebec	June 6, 1952	Detroit	3	9	12
Harper, Terry	6.01	197	Regina, Sask.	January 27, 1940	Detroit	8	25	33
Korney, Mike	6.03	220	Dauphin, Manitoba	September 15, 1953	Detroit-N.H.-Oklahoma	17	22	39
LaPointe, Richard	6.02	200	Victoria, B.C.	August 2, 1955	Detroit	10	23	23
McLeod, Glen	6.00	181	Scarborough, Ont.	December 4, 1954	N.H.-Columbus-Flint	1	19	20
Nahrgang, Jim	6.00	185	Millbank, Ontario	April 17, 1951	Detroit-New Haven	4	12	16
Watson, Bryan	5.10	175	Bancroft, Ontario	November 14, 1942	Detroit	0	18	18
Wilson, Rick	6.01	195	Prince Albert, Sask.	August 10, 1950	St. Louis	1	6	7
GOALTENDERS						Mins.	GA	SO
Giacomin, Ed	5.11	180	Sudbury, Ontario	June 6, 1939	Detroit-New York Rangers	1980	119	2
McDuffe, Peter	5.09	180	Molton, Ontario	February 16, 1948	Detroit-New Haven	1475	106	0
Richardson, Terry	6.01	190	New Westminster, B.C.	May 7, 1953	Detroit-New Haven	303	21	0
Rutherford, Jim	5.08	160	Beeton, Ontario	February 17, 1949	Detroit	2640	158	4

N.H.L. 1975-76 Statistical Review

BUFFALO SABRES

	GP	G	A	PTS	S	SC PCTG	GW	GT	F	T	L	I	P	TOT	PCTG	IP	PCTG
Gilbert Perreault	80	44	69	113	237	18.6	4	3	9	11	3	4	2	28	63.6	76	67.3
Rene Robert	72	35	52	87	273	12.8	4	2	8	6	2	5	3	24	68.6	62	71.3
Rick Martin	80	49	37	86	327	15.0	7	1	15	1	7	11	2	36	73.5	57	66.3
Danny Gare	79	50	23	73	303	16.5	9	4	3	6	6	16	4	35	70.0	46	63.0
Craig Ramsay	80	22	49	71	134	16.4	0	0	2	2	4	4	0	12	54.5	43	60.6
Don Luce	77	21	49	70	214	9.8	2	1	2	1	3	4	1	11	52.4	44	62.9
Peter McNab	79	24	32	56	125	19.2	3	0	5	3	3	5	2	18	75.0	41	73.2
Jocelyn Guevremont	80	12	40	52	229	5.2	3	0	2	1	1	5	3	12	100.0	40	76.9
Fred Stanfield	80	18	30	48	112	16.1	3	0	1	3	1	5	0	10	55.6	30	62.5
Jim Lorentz	75	17	24	41	116	14.7	4	0	2	0	2	3	1	8	47.1	24	58.5
Jerry Korab	65	13	28	41	146	8.9	1	1	0	6	1	3	0	10	76.9	31	75.6
Brian Spencer	77	13	26	39	84	15.5	1	1	4	1	0	2	0	7	53.8	26	66.7
Jacques Richard	73	12	23	35	104	11.5	5	0	0	2	2	3	0	7	58.3	20	57.1
Bill Hajt	80	6	21	27	117	5.1	0	0	1	1	0	3	0	5	83.3	19	70.4
Jim Schoenfeld	56	2	22	24	112	1.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	50.0	15	62.5
Lee Fogolin	58	0	9	9	61	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	6	66.7
Gary McAdam	31	1	2	3	12	8.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	33.3
Roger Crozier	11	0	1	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Paul McIntosh	42	0	1	1	9	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Gerry Desjardins	55	0	1	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Terry Martin	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Morris Titanic	2	0	0	0	2	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Ken Breitenbach	7	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
TOTALS	80	339	539	878	2717	12.5	46	13	53	44	35	73	19	224	66.1	582	66.3

Code of abbreviations used are:

GP—Games Played.
G—Goals.
A—Assists.
PTS—Points
S—Shots On Goal.

SC, PCTG.—Scoring Percentage.
GW—Game-Winning Goals.
GT—Game-Tying Goals.
F—First Goals of Game.
T—Score-Tying Goals.

L—Leading Goals.
I—Insurance Goals (puts team 2 goals ahead).
P—Proximate Goals (brings losing team to within one goal of opponent's

score. TOT—Total Important Goals.
PCTG.—Percentage of Important Goals to Goals Scored. IP—Important Points.
PCTG.—Percentage of Important Points to Total Points.

TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS

	GP	G	A	PTS	S	SC PCTG	GW	GT	F	T	L	I	P	TOT	PCTG	IP	PCTG
Darryl Sittler	79	41	59	100	346	11.8	2	2	7	11	2	7	1	28	68.3	72	72.0
Lanny McDonald	75	37	56	93	270	13.7	4	3	7	9	2	8	2	28	75.7	72	77.4
Errol Thompson	75	43	37	80	210	20.5	7	1	5	11	7	7	5	35	81.4	61	76.3
Borje Salming	78	16	41	57	194	8.2	1	0	3	0	3	1	2	9	56.3	38	66.7
Ian Turnbull	76	20	36	56	262	7.6	3	2	3	3	4	3	3	16	80.0	46	82.1
Stan Weir	64	19	32	51	90	21.1	3	2	3	5	0	4	2	14	73.7	37	72.5
George Ferguson	79	12	32	44	140	8.6	2	1	1	2	1	3	0	7	58.3	32	72.7
Dave Williams	78	21	19	40	149	14.1	3	2	3	4	3	4	1	15	71.4	29	72.5
Inge Hammarstrom	76	19	21	40	189	10.1	5	0	1	5	7	3	0	16	84.2	28	70.0
Jack Valiquette	45	10	23	33	111	9.0	1	1	1	1	3	1	2	8	80.0	26	78.8
Pat Boutette	77	10	22	32	92	10.9	2	0	1	1	4	2	0	8	80.0	22	68.8
Jim McKenny	46	10	19	29	76	13.2	0	0	4	1	0	2	0	7	70.0	23	79.3
Bob Neely	69	9	13	22	107	8.4	0	0	0	3	2	2	2	9	100.0	18	81.8
Don Ashby	50	6	15	21	63	9.5	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	3	50.0	16	76.2
Rod Seiling	77	3	16	19	108	2.8	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	66.7	14	73.7
Blaine Stoughton	43	6	11	17	60	10.0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	4	66.7	13	76.5
Greg Hubick	72	6	8	14	54	11.1	1	1	0	0	2	3	0	5	83.3	9	64.3
Claire Alexander	33	2	6	8	46	4.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	5	62.5
Dave Dunn	43	0	8	8	43	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	6	75.0
Brian Glennie	69	0	8	8	65	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	5	62.5
Scott Garland	16	4	3	7	17	23.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	25.0	2	28.6
Kurt Walker	5	0	0	0	2	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
TOTALS	80	294	485	779	2694	10.9	34	15	39	59	40	54	23	215	73.1	574	73.7



TOMMY MC VIE

Washington Capitals

First in war, first in peace, etc.

Enough harsh words about the Washington Capitals, even though they have won exactly 19 of their first 160 regular season games. There are times when a little pat on the back can do some good.

Washington is getting ours for the continued and concerted interest they are taking in their community and in building a relationship with the people who buy tickets. There are teams in the NHL which make it seem they're doing the fans a favor by letting them come to the arena, but it's not that way with the Capitals.

It isn't often, for instance, that you'll see a player offering to make free off-season appearances for any group that's interested in having him.

It isn't often you'll see a player take the shirt off his back and sell it for a \$25 contribution to the American Cancer Society; it isn't often you'll see a hockey player appearing at a bloodmobile, giving free autographed hockey sticks to anyone who'll donate the gift of life.

Unless, of course, you live in the Capitals' area. Because Washington right wing Hartland Monahan did each of those things last season. And he enjoyed it.

Now sure, it's something a losing team has to do to win people over. But you didn't see the New York Rangers doing it last year, did you? Or the Detroit Red Wings? It makes people feel cared about; the team knew it wasn't going anywhere, but they didn't give up on the fans and vice

versa.

It's not going to be a whole lot different this year, either, even though the Capitals can claim (if nothing else) the hockey championship of Japan. They beat the Kansas City-Denver Scouts in three of the four games played in Japan last May while everybody in North America was watching preliminary round Stanley Cup action. But that, of course, is exhibition stuff and the Caps right now are more concerned about a goals-against mark that reached 394 last season.

It wasn't really the goalies' fault. Ron Low and Bernie Wolfe had outstanding seasons but still finished up with goals-against averages that looked like football scores. Wolfe recalled a Saturday afternoon shellacking by Montreal when the Canadiens defensemen were lining up 20 feet inside the blue line for faceoffs so they could get their shots off faster.

The reason for that, of course, is they had nothing to be afraid of. Washington's offense managed a puny 224 goals (still, not the worst in the league) and with a defense like the Capitals', there was no reason to do differently.

Rookie Nelson Pyatt was even a bigger surprise, leading the team with 26 goals—one more than Tony White.

The defense might be bolstered this year by the signing of defenseman Rick Green, the league's first amateur draft choice last summer. The 6-foot-3, 210-pound Green might fill

the void that was left when the promise of Greg Joly went unfulfilled due to injuries. Green, who played his junior hockey for the London Knights of the Ontario Hockey Association, was rated by Central Scouting as a defensive defenseman—something the Caps need desperately. He accounted for 13 goals and 47 assists in the 60-game junior schedule, and it's hoped his point shot will help boost the offensive attack and power play.

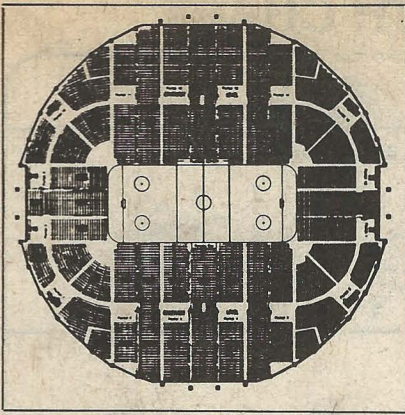
There are still the bitter memories of a 25-game winless streak the Caps broke with a rousing victory over the Rangers (who, by the way, are the only NHL team that hasn't won a game yet at the Capital Centre). In 48 days, the Caps were outscored 121-50.

There is hope that this season, with a hard-working crew that includes Harvey "Too Tall" Bennett, WHA refugee Mike Lampman, team-leading scorer Gerry Meehan and others, that things will improve to the extent that people will stop laughing and start taking notice of a team that's making an effort to improve itself despite a marked lack of high quality players.

And it will be interesting to see, on the day Washington does get some respect, whether all those promotions, all those free appearances and all those gimmick nights at Capital Centre will continue to give the fans the treatment they deserve. Our bet is that they will.

PAST RECORD

Year	W	L	T	Pts.	%	GF	GA	Plus or [Minus]	GF/ Game	GA/ Game	Year	Shts./ Game	Shtg. %	Power Play	Pen. Killed	Pen. Min./ Game	Finish	Playoff Result
74-75	8	67	5	21(18)	.131	181(18)	446(18)	[265](18)	2.26	5.58	74-75	23.1(18)	9.8(17)	12.3(18)	71.0(18)	13.6(11)	5N	—
75-76	11	59	10	32(18)	.200	224(16)	394(18)	[170](18)	2.80	4.93	75-76	24.4(18)	11.5(7)	14.1(17)	74.6(15)	11.9(14)	5N	—



CAPITAL CENTRE



Ron Low was overworked once again in the Washington cage last year.



Hartland Monahan



Greg Joly

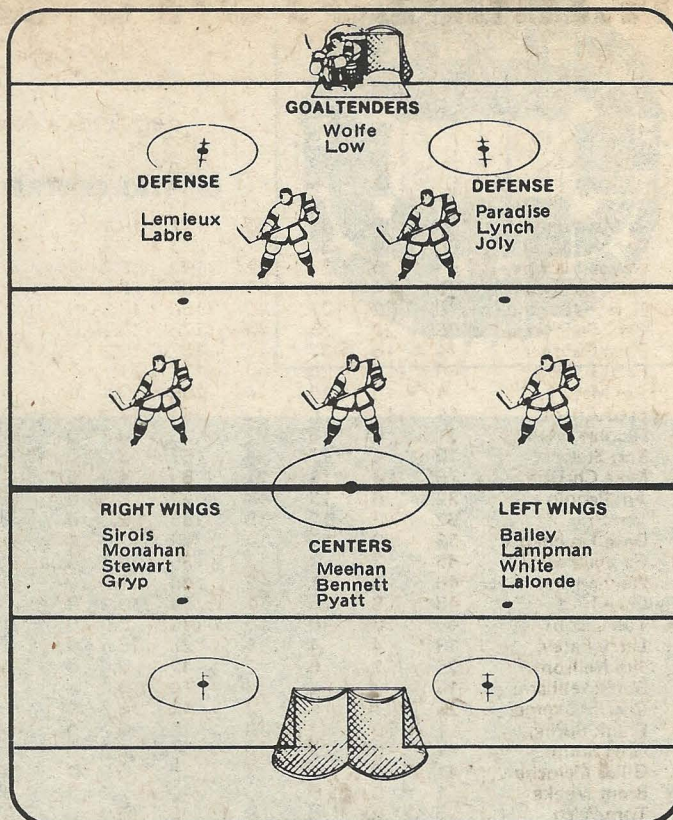


Nelson Pyatt



Veteran Gerry Meehan came to Washington from Atlanta last year.

DEPTH CHART



ROSTER

1976-77 WASHINGTON CAPITALS

Player	Hgt.	Wgt.	Place of Birth	Date of Birth	1975-76 Club	1975-76 Record		
						G	A	Pts
FORWARDS								
Bailey, Garnet	5.11	192	Lloydminster, Sask.	June 13, 1948	Washington	13	19	32
Bennett, Harvey	6.04	215	Cranston, R.I.	August 8, 1951	Pittsburgh-Washington	15	13	28
Bagnalo, Rick	5.08	160	Thunder Bay, Ont.	December 1, 1951	Dayton-Washington	31	34	65
Carroll, Greg	6.00	185	Gimley, Man.	November 19, 1956	Medicine Hat Jrs.	60	109	169
Forsythe, Alex	6.02	195	Galt, Ont	January 6, 1955	Richmond	7	16	23
Kinsella, Brian	5.11	180	Barrie, Ont	February 11, 1954	Dayton-Washington	43	46	89
Lalonde, Ron	5.10	170	Toronto, Ont.	October 30, 1952	Washington	9	19	28
Lampman, Mike	6.02	195	Hamilton, Ont.	April 20, 1950	Washington-Baltimore	20	36	56
Marson, Mike	5.09	200	Scarborough, Ont.	July 24, 1955	Washington-Baltimore	5	10	15
Meehan, Gerry	6.02	200	Toronto, Ont.	September 3, 1946	Atlanta-Washington	23	35	58
Monahan, Hartland	5.11	170	Montreal, Que.	March 29, 1951	Washington	17	29	46
Nicholson, Paul	6.00	190	Listowel, Ont.	June 16, 1954	Dayton-Richmond-Wash.	35	39	74
Patey, Doug	5.10	180	Toronto, Ont.	December 20, 1956	Sault St. Marie Jrs.	45	65	110
Patterson, Jack	6.01	180	Hythe, Alta.	January 20, 1954	Dayton	18	33	51
Pyatt, Nelson	6.00	175	Port Arthur, Ont.	September 9, 1953	Washington	26	23	49
Riley, Bill	5.11	195	Amherst, N.S.	September 20, 1950	Dayton	35	31	66
Rowe, Tom	6.00	194	Lynn, Mass.	May 3, 1956	London Jrs.	39	55	94
Sirois, Bob	6.00	178	Montreal, Que.	February 6, 1954	Philadelphia-Wash-Richmond	24	37	61
Stewart, Blair	5.11	185	Winnipeg, Man	March 15, 1953	Washington	13	14	27
White, Tony	5.10	175	Grand Falls, Nfld.	June 16, 1954	Washington	25	17	42
DEFENSEMEN								
Anderson, Murray	5.10	175	The Pas, Man.	August 28, 1949	Springfield	3	21	24
Bolonchuk, Larry	5.10	185	Winnipeg, Man.	February 26, 1952	Dayton-Washington	4	39	43
Glendinning, Al	6.02	185	Vancouver, B.C.	March 31, 1956	Calgary Jrs.	2	32	34
Green, Rick	6.03	202	Belleville, Ont.	February 20, 1956	London Jrs.	13	47	60
Joly, Greg	6.01	185	Rocky Mt. House, Alta.	May 30, 1954	Washington-Richmond	11	19	30
Labre, Yvon	5.10	190	Sudbury, Ont.	November 29, 1949	Washington	2	20	22
Lane, Gord	6.01	180	Brandon, Man.	March 31, 1953	Dayton-Washington	13	22	35
Lemieux, Jean	6.02	180	Noranda, Que.	May 31, 1952	Atlanta, Washington	10	23	33
Lynch, Jack	6.02	180	Toronto, Ont.	May 28, 1952	Washington	0	13	22
McLean, Don	6.01	200	Niagara Falls, Ont.	January 1954	Salt Lake City-Washington	1	12	13
Paradise, Bob	6.01	205	St. Paul, Minnesota	April 22, 1944	Pittsburgh, Washington	0	8	8
Scamurra, Pete	5.03	185	Buffalo, New York	February 23, 1955	Richmond, Washington	4	14	18
Smith, Gord	5.10	175	Perth, Ont.	November 17, 1949	Richmond-Washington	3	15	18
Wilson, Don	6.01	195		June 27, 1956	St. Catharines Jrs.	3	12	15
						Mins.	GA	SO
Bedard, Jim	5.10	181		November 14, 1956	Sudbury Jrs.	1047	55	1
Low, Ron	6.01	205	Birtle, Man.	June 21, 1950	Washington	2289	208	0
Malarchuk, Garth	5.11	175	Edmonton, Alta.	July 22, 1954	Dayton-Saginaw-Ft. Wayne	1364	120	1
Rideout, Dale	5.09	164		November 29, 1956	Flin Flon	693	64	0
Wolfe, Bernie	6.09	165	Montreal, Que.	December 18, 1951	Richmond-Washington	2281	154	0

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CALIFORNIA SEALS

	GP	G	A	PTS	S	SC PCTG	GW	GT	F	T	L	I	P	TOT	PCTG	IP	PCTG
Al MacAdam	80	32	31	63	177	18.1	5	1	6	7	5	8	2	28	87.5	53	84.1
Dennis Maruk	80	30	32	62	233	12.9	3	1	7	4	5	3	3	22	73.3	47	75.8
Wayne Merrick	56	25	27	52	190	13.2	4	2	4	1	5	8	2	20	80.0	40	76.9
Rick Hampton	73	14	37	51	106	13.2	2	1	1	1	4	2	1	9	64.3	39	76.5
Robert Murdoch	78	22	27	49	166	13.3	3	0	1	2	2	7	3	15	68.2	36	73.5
Gary Sabourin	76	21	28	49	172	12.2	3	1	5	3	5	1	2	16	76.2	36	73.5
Dave Gardner	74	16	32	48	157	10.2	1	0	5	4	0	2	3	14	87.5	41	85.4
Bob Girard	80	16	26	42	137	11.7	1	0	4	1	2	1	3	11	68.8	28	66.7
Jim Moxey	44	10	16	26	106	9.4	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	4	40.0	16	61.5
Fred Ahern	44	17	8	25	88	19.3	4	2	1	3	4	4	1	13	76.5	19	76.0
Ralph Klassen	71	6	15	21	96	6.3	0	0	2	1	0	0	2	5	83.3	12	57.1
Bob Stewart	76	4	17	21	67	6.0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	75.0	16	76.2
Mike Christie	78	3	18	21	63	4.8	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	66.7	15	71.4
Jim Pappin	32	6	13	19	72	8.3	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	4	66.7	14	73.7
Len Frig	62	3	12	15	108	2.8	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	66.7	10	66.7
Dave Hrechkosy	38	9	5	14	75	12.0	1	0	3	2	0	0	0	5	55.6	9	64.3
George Pesut	45	3	9	12	35	8.6	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	3	100.0	8	66.7
Wayne King	46	1	11	12	46	2.2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	100.0	9	75.0
Gary Holt	48	6	5	11	59	10.2	0	1	0	3	0	0	1	4	66.7	7	63.6
Tim Jacobs	46	0	10	10	46	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	6	60.0
Larry Patey	18	4	4	8	25	16.0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	50.0	5	62.5
Jim Neilson	26	1	6	7	42	2.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	100.0	6	85.7
Butch Williams	14	0	4	4	10	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	3	75.0
Charlie Simmer	21	1	1	2	12	8.3	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	100.0	2	100.0
Frank Spring	1	0	2	2	1	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	2	100.0
Greg Smith	1	0	1	1	1	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Gilles Meloche	41	0	1	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Brent Meeke	1	0	0	0	2	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Tom Price	5	0	0	0	5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
TOTALS	80	250	398	648	2297	10.9	27	11	42	35	39	43	26	185	74.0	481	74.2

Code of abbreviations used are:

GP—Games Played.

G—Goals.

A—Assists.

PTS—Points

S—Shots On Goal.

SC. PCTG.—Scoring Percentage.

GW—Game-Winning Goals.

GT—Game-Tying Goals.

F—First Goals of Game.

T—Score-Tying Goals.

L—Leading Goals.

I—Insurance Goals (puts team 2 goals ahead).

P—Proximate Goals (brings losing team to within one goal of opponent's

score. TOT—Total Important Goals.

PCTG.—Percentage of Important Goals to Goals Scored. IP—Important Points.

PCTG.—Percentage of Important Points to Total Points.

PHILADELPHIA FLYERS

	GP	G	A	PTS	S	SC PCTG	GW	GT	F	T	L	I	P	TOT	PCTG	IP	PCTG
Bobby Clarke	76	30	89	119	194	15.5	2	1	6	6	2	3	2	19	63.3	73	61.3
Bill Barber	80	50	62	112	380	13.2	10	2	5	4	6	12	2	29	58.0	71	63.4
Reggie Leach	80	61	30	91	335	18.2	11	5	8	6	11	12	3	40	65.6	57	62.6
Orest Kindrachuk	76	26	49	75	181	14.4	2	0	4	1	2	7	2	16	61.5	46	61.3
Gary Dornhoefer	74	28	35	63	152	18.4	3	1	6	4	3	5	0	18	64.3	41	65.1
Mel Bridgman	80	23	27	50	166	13.9	2	0	3	1	2	5	1	12	52.2	31	62.0
Don Saleski	78	21	26	47	224	9.4	4	1	3	1	7	4	0	15	71.4	31	66.0
Ross Lonsberry	80	19	28	47	209	9.1	0	2	3	2	3	3	0	11	57.9	28	59.6
Rick MacLeish	51	22	23	45	222	9.9	4	0	2	4	4	5	1	16	72.7	32	71.1
Larry Goodenough	77	8	34	42	149	5.4	2	0	1	2	0	3	0	6	75.0	28	66.7
Tom Bladon	80	14	23	37	182	7.7	0	3	4	4	2	1	0	11	78.6	25	67.6
Andre Dupont	75	9	27	36	139	6.5	2	0	0	1	3	2	1	7	77.8	22	61.1
Jimmy Watson	79	2	34	36	89	2.2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	100.0	27	75.0
Dave Schultz	71	13	19	32	91	14.3	3	1	0	1	3	3	0	7	53.8	20	62.5
Joe Watson	78	2	22	24	88	2.3	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	100.0	15	62.5
Bob Kelly	79	12	8	20	103	11.7	3	0	0	2	2	3	0	7	58.3	13	65.0
Terry Crisp	38	6	9	15	48	12.5	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	33.3	5	33.3
Ed Van Impe	40	0	8	8	15	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	7	87.5
Jack McIlhargey	57	1	2	3	23	4.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	100.0	3	100.0
Larry Wright	2	1	0	1	3	33.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Bob Sirois	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Paul Holmgren	1	0	0	0	1	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Terry Murray	3	0	0	0	3	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
TOTALS	80	348	555	903	2997	11.6	51	16	47	39	51	71	13	221	63.5	575	63.7



Prince of Wales Conference

Adams Division

ROUNDUPS

By FRANK BROWN

Teams in order of predicted finish.



DON CHERRY

Boston Bruins

Did the Orr-less Bruins make the right decision?

There are enough newcomers—or relative newcomers—in the Boston lineup to make the Bruins think about having place cards put in the dressing room so that everyone will know who everyone else is. But this club is as strong as they come in the middle—a critical area for power on any team.

Start at goal. Gerry Cheevers, despite his advancing years (he's 35), is proven and proficient in net as his 2.73 goals-against average will attest. Experience and a willingness to take a risk to challenge the shooters are two of his strongest points.

And standing by to share the duty is Gilles Gilbert, a flamboyant but imposing figure between the pipes.

Then move up the center slot to Jean Ratelle, coming off the best season of his life; pesty Gregg Sheppard, who collected 31 goals, and young bull Pete McNab, who is expected by Boston management to truly come into his own and show the talent his potential has predicted since he entered the league.

They don't come much stronger than that, and—backed by Coach Don Cherry's defense-oriented strategy—there is little doubt that the fans visiting the newly-refurbished Boston Garden will have a product of

which they can be proud.

One major factor for that is defenseman Brad Park, who shook off the shackles of a mentally torturous stay in New York to play the way he really can. His arrival last November made it clear Bobby Orr, despite his unquestioned greatness, could be moved if the situation presented itself, as it did over the summer.

There's no question Park would have given the Islanders' Denis Potvin a run for his money in the Norris Trophy balloting had he been able to avoid the knee troubles which have been bothersome in the past. Still, in 56 games, he managed 18 goals and 41 assists and provided the cohesion for a defenseman that also got a top season from venerable Dallas Smith, pleasantly surprising play from Joe Zanussi (the throw-in by the Rangers in the deal that brought Ratelle and Park to Boston for Carol Vadnais and Phil Esposito).

Zanussi would not be the last Ranger to migrate northward, nor would the shocking deal that involved him be the last of the eyebrow raisers between clubs that once were vicious antagonists. For not long after the season ended young right wing Rick Middleton would arrive in exchange

for Ken Hodge, who was spotted in action by Cherry during the season and whose play was a bit spotty as a result.

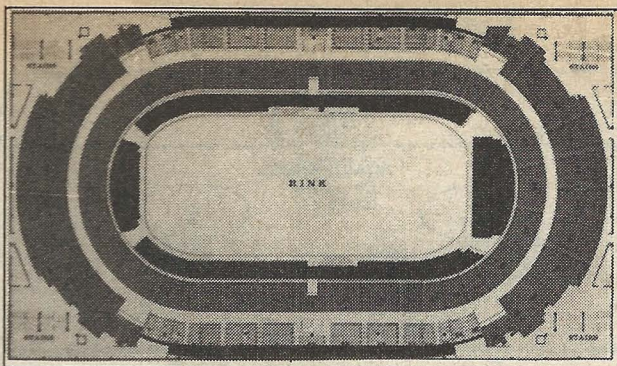
So, in a matter of months, Boston acquired Park, Ratelle, Zanussi, Middleton and McNab, who became a Bruin during an exchange of free agents with Buffalo (which got promising pivot Andre Savard). But these new faces, combined with the imposing nucleus of Boston properties from the past, will help Boston continue as the Adams Division front-runners.

After all, the carryovers include fiery right wing Terry O'Reilly; ageless left wing Johnny Bucyk, who though well into his 40s signed for yet another season; brash Wayne Cashman and veteran Bobby Schmautz, who, though often made the plaything of the gallery sitters in the Garden, still possesses scoring potency.

Under the leadership of Park and the gentle Ratelle, bolstered by the acquisition of whoever they get from Chicago in compensation for Orr, and guided by Cherry's touch, Boston will repeat as Adams champs and may even make a more serious charge at the Stanley Cup.

PAST RECORD

Year	W	L	T	Pts.	%	GF	GA	Plus or [Minus]	GF/ Game	GA/ Game	Year	Shts./ Game	Shtg. %	Power Play	Pen. Killed	Pen. Min./ Game	Finish	Playoff Result
67-68	37	27	10	84(3)	.568	259(1)	216(6)	43(2)	3.50	2.92	67-68	33.3(1)	10.5(1)	19.1(5)	82.6(8)	14.1(1)	3E	L-QF
68-69	42	18	16	100(2)	.658	303(1)	221(5)	82(1)	3.99	2.91	68-69	34.1(3)	11.7(1)	22.6(1)	84.6(1)	17.1(1)	2E	L-SF
69-70	40	17	19	99(1)	.651	277(1)	216(6)	61(2)	3.64	2.84	69-70	37.8(1)	9.7(2)	29.0(1)	77.8(8)	15.7(1)	2E	Won
70-71	57	14	7	121(1)	.776	399(1)	207(3)	192(1)	5.12	2.65	70-71	40.6(1)	12.6(1)	27.7(1)	84.2(2)	14.7(5)	1E	L-QF
71-72	54	13	11	119(1)	.763	330(1)	204(4)	126(1)	4.23	2.62	71-72	33.6(2)	12.5(1)	28.9(1)	82.4(6)	14.2(3)	1E	Won
72-73	51	22	5	107(2)	.686	330(1)	235(6)	95(2)	4.23	3.01	72-73	34.3(2)	12.3(2)	27.8(2)	84.4(4)	14.0(3)	2E	L-QF
73-74	52	17	9	113(1)	.724	349(1)	221(3)	128(1)	4.47	2.83	73-74	34.0(2)	13.1(1)	28.9(2)	81.4(6)	12.4(5)	1E	L-F
74-75	40	26	14	94(5)	.588	345(3)	245(8)	100(4)	4.31	3.06	74-75	34.9(2)	12.4(2)	29.1(1)	81.8(6)	14.4(6)	2A	L-FR
75-76	48	15	17	113(3)	.706	313(5)	237(4)	76(5)	3.91	2.96	75-76	33.8(5)	11.6(6)	26.6(3)	83.8(4)	14.9(6)	1A	L-SF



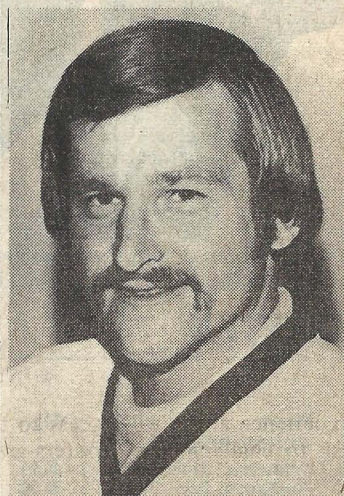
BOSTON GARDEN



Jean Ratelle enjoyed his best season ever in 1975-76.



John Bucyk

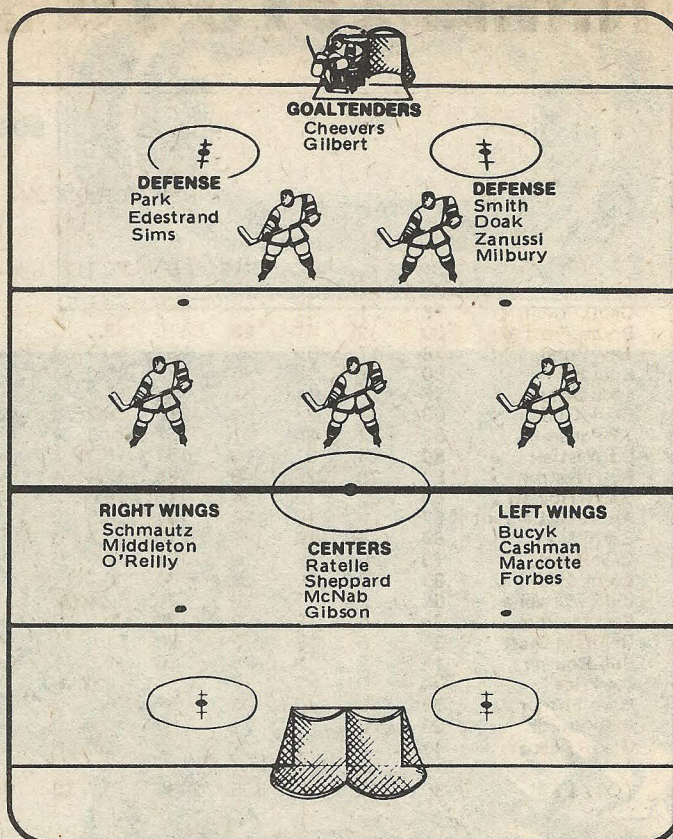


Gregg Sheppard



Peter McNab

DEPTH CHART



The Bruin defense was bolstered by the return of Gerry Cheevers from the W.H.A.

ROSTER

1976-77 BOSTON BRUINS						1975-76 Record		
Player	Hgt.	Wgt	Place of Birth	Date of Birth	1975-75 Club	G	A	Pts.
FORWARDS								
Adduono, Rick	5.11	187	Thunder Bay, Ont.	January 25, 1955	Bstn-Rchstr-Bngmntn	13	23	36
Anderson, Earl	6.00	185	Roseau, Minn.	February 24, 1951	Boston	0	1	1
Bucyk, John	6.00	214	Edmonton, Atla.	May 12, 1935	Boston	36	47	83
Cashman, Wayne	6.01	203	Kingston, Ont	June 24, 1945	Boston	28	43	71
Clark, Gordie	5.10	180	Glasgow, Scotland	May 31, 1952	Boston-Rochester	30	50	80
Forbes, Dave	5.10	178	Montreal, Que.	November 16, 1948	Boston	16	13	29
Gibson, Doug	5.10	175	Peterborough, Ont.	September 28, 1953	Boston-Rochester	18	38	56
Jonathan, Stan	5.08	175	Brantford, Ont.	May 9, 1955	Bstn-Rchstr-Dytn	27	48	75
Jones, Jim	6.02	180	Woodbridge, Ont.	January 2, 1953	Rochester	16	22	38
Langdon, Steve	5.11	175	Toronto, Ont.	December 23, 1953	Bstn-Rchstr-Bgmtm	18	12	30
Marcotte, Don	5.10	186	Asbestos, Que.	April 15, 1947	Boston	16	20	36
McNab, Peter	6.03	203	Vancouver, B.C.	May 8, 1952	Buffalo	24	32	56
Middleton, Rick	5.11	170	Toronto, Ont	December 4, 1953	N.Y. Rangers	24	26	50
Nowak, Hank	6.01	200	Oshawa, Ont.	November 24, 1950	Boston	7	3	10
O'Reilly, Terry	6.01	199	Niagara Falls, Ont.	June 7, 1951	Boston	23	27	50
Pachal, Clayton	5.10	181	Yorkton, Sask.	April 21, 1956	N. Wstmstr. Jrs.	41	57	98
Ratelle, Jean	6.01	180	Lac St. Jean, Que.	October 3, 1940	N.Y. Rngs-Boston	36	69	105
Ruhnke, Kent	6.01	190	Toronto, Ont.	September 18, 1952	Boston-U. Toronto	29	16	45
Schmautz, Bob	5.09	176	Saskatoon, Sask.	March 28, 1945	Boston	28	34	62
Sheppard, Gregg	5.08	171	No. Battleford, Sask.	April 23, 1949	Boston	31	43	74
Smith, Barry	5.11	178	Surrey, B.C.	April 25, 1955	Boston-Rochester	15	22	37
Sturgeon, Peter	6.02	206	Whitehorse, Yukon	February 12, 1954	Bltnr-Rchstr-Bngmntn	18	16	34
DEFENSEMEN								
Doak, Gary	5.11	191	Goderich, Ont.	February 25, 1946	Boston	1	6	7
Edstrand, Darryl	5.11	185	Strathroy, Ont.	November 6, 1945	Boston	4	17	21
Halward, Doug	6.01	184	Toronto, Ont.	November 1, 1955	Boston-Rochester	7	16	23
Maluta, Ray	5.08	170	Flin Flon, Man.	July 24, 1954	Boston Rochester	3	43	46
Milbury, Mike	6.01	202	Brighton, Mass.	June 17, 1952	Boston Rochester	3	15	18
Park, Brad	6.00	200	Toronto, Ont.	July 6, 1948	N.Y. Rngs-Boston	18	41	59
Sims, Al	6.00	188	Toronto, Ont.	April 18, 1953	Boston-Rochester	8	8	16
Smith, Dallas	5.11	181	Hamiota, Man.	October 10, 1941	Boston	7	25	32
Zanussi, Joe	5.10	180	Rossland, B.C.	September 25, 1947	Prvdnc-Rchstr-Bstn	9	19	28
GOALTENDERS								
Carr, Gary	6.00	175	Toronto, Ont.	Aug 14, 1955	Dayton	1089	115	0
Cheevers, Gerry	5.11	185	St. Catherine's Ont.	December 7, 1940	Boston	900	41	1
Gilbert, Gilles	6.01	175	St. Esprit, Que.	March 31, 1949	Boston	3123	151	3
Pettie, Jim	6.00	195	Toronto, Ont.	October 24, 1953	Dayton-Bngmntn	1438	120	6
Reece, Dave	6.01	190	Troy, N.Y.	September 13, 1948	Boston-Sprngfld	1979	121	2

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NEW YORK ISLANDERS

	SC															TOT	PCTG	IP	PCTG
	GP	G	A	PTS	S	PCT	GTG	GW	GT	F	T	L	I	P					
Denis Potvin	78	31	67	98	256	12.1	4	2	3	4	4	4	6	3	20	64.5	62	63.3	
Bryan Trottier	80	32	63	95	178	18.0	5	3	10	2	6	6	6	2	26	81.3	70	73.7	
Jean Potvin	78	17	55	72	167	10.2	2	0	1	1	2	2	2	2	8	47.1	47	65.3	
Billy Harris	80	32	38	70	228	14.0	4	2	5	5	8	4	1	23	71.9	51	72.9		
Jude Drouin	76	21	41	62	153	13.7	2	0	2	5	2	4	0	13	61.9	42	67.7		
Clark Gillies	80	34	27	61	210	16.2	6	0	4	9	3	5	1	22	64.7	42	68.9		
J P Parise	80	22	35	57	152	14.5	4	1	2	2	5	4	1	14	63.6	33	57.9		
Ed Westfall	80	25	31	56	154	16.2	3	1	2	5	2	4	3	16	64.0	33	58.9		
Bob Nystrom	80	23	25	48	185	12.4	4	2	5	1	4	5	2	17	73.9	32	66.7		
Garry Howatt	80	21	13	34	115	18.3	2	2	4	3	5	3	0	15	71.4	22	64.7		
Andre St-Laurent	67	9	17	26	101	8.9	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	5	55.6	15	57.7		
Gerry Hart	80	6	18	24	110	5.5	0	1	0	0	1	2	0	3	50.0	13	54.2		
Dave Lewis	73	0	19	19	91	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	12	63.2		
Lorne Henning	80	7	10	17	84	8.3	0	2	0	5	0	0	1	6	85.7	12	70.6		
Billy MacMillan	64	9	7	16	75	12.0	2	0	2	2	1	0	0	5	55.6	9	56.3		
Bert Marshall	71	0	16	16	70	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	11	68.8		
Ralph Stewart	31	6	7	13	28	21.4	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	16.7	5	38.5		
Bob Bourne	14	2	3	5	16	12.5	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	50.0	2	40.0		
Pat Price	4	0	2	2	4	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	2	100.0		
Dave Fortier	59	0	2	2	58	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0		
Billy Smith	39	0	1	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100.0		
Glenn Resch	44	0	1	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0		
TOTALS	80	297	498	705	2435	12.2	42	17	41	45	45	47	17	195	65.7	516	64.9		

Code of abbreviations used are:

GP—Games Played.
G—Goals.
A—Assists.
PTS—Points
S—Shots On Goal.

SC. PCTG.—Scoring Percentage.
GW—Game-Winning Goals.
GT—Game-Tying Goals.
F—First Goals of Game.
T—Score-Tying Goals.

L—Leading Goals.
I—Insurance Goals (puts team 2 goals ahead).
P—Proximate Goals (brings losing team to within one goal of opponent's

score. TOT—Total Important Goals.
PCTG.—Percentage of Important Goals to Goals Scored. IP—Important Points.
PCTG.—Percentage of Important Points to Total Points.

ATLANTA FLAMES

	GP	G	A	PTS	S	SC PCTG	GW	GT	F	T	L	I	P	TOT	PCTG	IP	PCTG
Tom Lysiak	80	31	51	82	233	13.3	5	1	5	4	2	6	4	21	67.7	54	65.9
Curt Bennett	80	34	31	85	221	15.4	8	1	7	5	6	4	3	25	73.5	45	69.2
Hilliard Graves	80	19	30	49	168	11.3	3	0	5	1	5	4	1	16	84.2	34	69.4
Claude St. Sauveur	79	24	24	48	171	14.0	2	0	5	3	1	4	1	14	58.3	31	64.6
Eric Vail	60	16	31	47	127	12.6	1	3	1	4	2	3	1	11	68.8	28	59.6
Bill Flett	78	23	17	40	171	13.5	3	2	3	1	5	5	2	16	69.6	26	65.0
Dave Kryskow	79	15	25	40	120	12.5	2	1	3	0	2	5	1	11	73.3	27	67.5
Rey Comeau	79	17	22	39	124	13.7	2	1	4	0	1	3	0	8	47.1	23	59.0
Randy Manery	80	7	32	39	139	5.0	3	0	0	1	2	0	1	4	57.1	30	76.9
Larry Romanchych	67	16	19	35	110	14.5	2	0	2	2	0	5	3	12	75.0	25	71.4
Barry Gibbs	76	8	21	29	125	6.4	0	2	1	1	0	2	0	4	50.0	16	55.2
Bill Clement	31	13	14	27	71	18.3	3	0	1	1	1	2	0	5	38.5	15	55.6
Ed Kea	78	8	19	27	125	6.4	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	4	50.0	19	70.4
Gerry Meehan	48	7	20	27	71	9.9	1	1	2	2	0	0	0	4	57.1	17	63.0
Tim Ecclestone	69	6	21	27	117	5.1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	3	50.0	18	66.7
Larry Carriere	75	4	15	19	126	3.2	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	3	75.0	17	89.5
Jean Lemieux	33	4	9	13	51	7.8	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	75.0	7	53.8
Pat Quinn	80	2	11	13	58	3.4	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	100.0	10	76.9
Ken Houston	38	5	6	11	49	10.2	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	4	80.0	9	81.8
Bob Leiter	26	2	3	5	26	7.7	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	100.0	4	80.0
Guy Chouinard	4	0	2	2	8	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	2	100.0
Richard Mulhern	12	1	0	1	17	5.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Richard Lemieux	1	0	1	1	1	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Cam Botting	2	0	1	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Phil Myre	37	0	1	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Dan Bouchard	47	0	1	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Buster Harvey	1	0	0	0	1	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Noel Price	3	0	0	0	1	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Pat Ribble	3	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Bill Plett	4	0	0	0	5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Rick Bowness	5	0	0	0	6	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
TOTALS	80	262	427	689	2442	10.7	35	12	48	36	28	48	18	172	65.6	458	66.5

N.H.L. 1975-76 Statistical Review

NEW YORK RANGERS—1975-1976

	GP	G	A	PTS	S	SC PCTG	GW	GT	F	T	L	I	P	TOT	PCTG	IP	PCTG
Rod Gilbert	70	36	50	86	211	17.1	4	1	5	5	10	7	1	28	77.8	61	70.9
Steve Vickers	80	30	53	83	202	14.9	4	1	6	1	3	7	1	18	60.0	63	75.9
Phil Esposito	62	29	38	67	217	13.4	2	2	6	5	4	3	4	22	75.9	43	64.2
Rick Middleton	77	24	26	50	159	15.1	5	3	1	6	3	4	4	18	75.0	37	74.0
Carol Vadnais	64	20	30	50	197	10.2	1	0	1	1	2	3	4	11	55.0	29	58.0
Wayne Dillon	79	21	24	45	138	15.2	1	0	4	3	3	4	2	16	76.2	32	71.1
Pete Sternkowski	75	13	28	41	126	10.3	2	0	2	0	1	2	2	7	53.8	26	63.4
Greg Polis	79	15	21	36	158	9.5	1	1	3	2	0	3	0	8	53.3	21	58.3
Pat Hickey	70	14	22	36	157	8.9	1	0	3	3	0	2	1	9	64.3	24	66.7
Walt Tkaczuk	78	8	28	36	142	5.6	1	0	3	1	1	1	0	6	75.0	22	61.1
Bill Fairbairn	80	13	15	28	160	8.1	2	0	1	1	0	3	2	7	53.8	17	60.7
Ron Greschner	77	6	21	27	176	3.4	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	3	50.0	14	51.9
Gilles Marotte	57	4	17	21	113	3.5	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	4	100.0	19	90.5
Jean Ratelle	13	5	10	15	28	17.9	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	40.0	10	66.7
Larry Sacharuk	42	6	7	13	70	8.6	2	0	0	0	2	2	0	4	66.7	11	84.6
Jerry Holland	36	7	4	11	50	14.0	1	1	1	1	2	0	0	4	57.1	6	54.5
John Bednarski	59	1	8	9	62	1.6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	5	55.6
Nick Beverley	63	1	8	9	75	1.3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	100.0	5	55.6
Bill Collins	50	4	4	8	47	8.5	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	3	75.0	6	75.0
Brad Park	13	2	4	6	28	7.1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	50.0	1	16.7
Dave Maloney	21	1	3	4	40	2.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	100.0	3	75.0
Doug Jarrett	45	0	4	4	45	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	3	75.0
Eddie Johnstone	10	2	1	3	6	33.3	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	100.0	3	100.0
John Davidson	56	0	2	2	0	9.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	50.0
Ron Harris	3	0	1	1	1	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Doug Soetaert	8	0	1	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Greg Holst	2	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Derek Sanderson	8	0	0	0	29	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Dale Lewis	8	0	0	0	3	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Totals	80	262	430	692	2640	9.9	29	9	39	32	34	48	22	175	66.8	463	66.9

Code of abbreviations used are:

GP—Games Played.
G—Goals.
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PTS—Points
S—Shots On Goal.

SC. PCTG.—Scoring Percentage.
GW—Game-Winning Goals.
GT—Game-Tying Goals.
F—First Goals of Game.
T—Score-Tying Goals.

L—Leading Goals.
I—Insurance Goals (puts team 2 goals ahead).
P—Proximate Goals (brings losing team to within one goal of opponent's

score. TOT—Total Important Goals.
PCTG.—Percentage of Important Goals to Goals Scored. IP—Important Points.
PCTG.—Percentage of Important Points to Total Points.

CHICAGO BLACK HAWKS 1975-1976

	GP	G	A	PTS	S	SC PCTG	GW	GT	F	T	L	I	P	TOT	PCTG	IP	PCTG
Pit Martin	80	32	39	71	188	17.0	4	3	7	4	7	4	2	24	75.0	54	76.1
Dennis Hull	80	27	39	66	225	12.0	4	1	3	3	5	5	3	19	70.4	47	71.2
Ivan Boldirev	78	28	34	62	178	15.7	4	2	1	7	1	6	4	19	67.9	45	72.6
Dale Tallon	80	15	47	62	161	9.3	5	0	0	1	3	5	2	11	73.3	49	79.0
Glen Kolff	80	25	33	58	185	13.5	2	4	7	4	4	2	2	19	76.0	45	77.6
Stan Mikita	48	16	41	57	159	10.1	1	1	4	3	0	4	2	13	81.3	46	80.7
John Marks	80	21	23	44	152	13.8	4	0	6	2	1	4	4	17	81.0	33	75.0
Phil Russell	74	9	29	38	180	5.0	0	0	3	2	0	3	0	8	88.9	30	78.9
Darcy Rota	79	20	17	37	201	10.0	2	0	3	6	4	4	0	17	85.0	27	73.0
Dick Redmond	53	9	27	36	165	5.5	1	1	4	2	0	2	1	9	100.0	29	80.6
Bobby Sheehan	78	11	20	31	129	8.5	0	2	1	3	2	0	1	7	63.6	22	71.0
J P Bordeleau	76	12	18	30	71	16.9	2	2	0	5	0	5	1	11	91.7	23	76.7
Grant Mulvey	64	11	17	28	90	12.2	1	2	2	2	2	1	0	7	63.6	20	71.4
Alain Daigle	71	15	9	24	85	17.6	2	0	2	3	1	3	0	9	60.0	16	66.7
Bill White	59	1	9	10	46	2.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	100.0	8	80.0
Keith Magnuson	48	1	6	7	27	3.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	5	71.4
Chico Maki	22	0	6	6	13	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	5	83.3
Joey Johnston	32	0	5	5	20	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	3	60.0
Robert Murray	64	1	2	3	61	1.6	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	100.0	2	66.7
Rob Palmer	2	0	1	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Tony Esposito	68	0	1	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Dave Logan	2	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Germain Gagnon	5	0	0	0	10	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Randy Holt	12	0	0	0	5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Totals	80	254	423	677	2351	10.8	32	18	43	47	30	49	23	192	75.6	510	75.3

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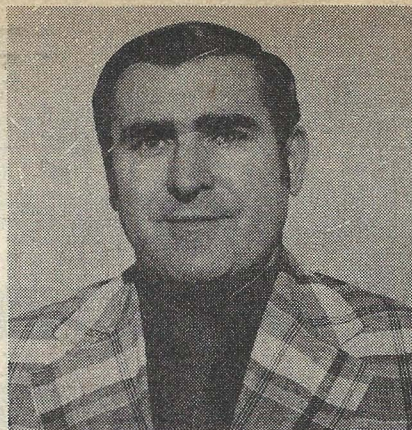
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FLOYD SMITH

Buffalo Sabres

Sabres can't cut it without a goalie

The reason behind Buffalo's playoff demise in the past two seasons and the reason they will not threaten Montreal's Stanley Cup crown is a simple, fundamental one: inconsistent goaltending. But the blame is misplaced when heaped on the shoulders of veteran Gerry Desjardins, for indeed the true villain is General Manager Punch Imlach. There can be little doubt.

Though it was Desjardins whose frequent clumsiness was a measurable factor in the final series loss to Philadelphia two years ago and the semifinal debacle against the Islanders last April, it is Imlach who must take responsibility for not obtaining sufficient net strength for a team that otherwise has everything needed for true championship contention.

The offensive power can not be questioned: Gilbert Perreault scored 44 goals and totaled 113 points—third-best in the league; linemate Rene Robert missed eight games but performed creditably with 35 goals and 52 assists while French Connection linemate Rick Martin

produced 49 goals, barely missing his 50th in the final game against Boston's Gerry Cheevers.

Add to that a 50-goal season by pugnacious Danny Gare and solid outputs by checkers Don Luce and Craig Ramsay and you've got an attack that tied with Pittsburgh as the second most potent in the league.

And it is tough to question the burly though sometimes cumbersome defense—especially the play of star Jim Schoenfeld who suffered through an injury-wracked season but played despite incredible pain in the playoffs when others might well have quit. Then, there's Jerry Korab, who turned in one of the great performances of the NHL-Russia series as the Sabres blasted the Wings. He continued to establish himself as one of the top rearguards in activity today despite a badly mashed nose which cost him five pints of blood within hours. Young Bill Hajt had a stable sophomore campaign, and lumbering Jocelyn Guevremont played well, though not as strongly as in 1974-75.

But it's still a heady, charging

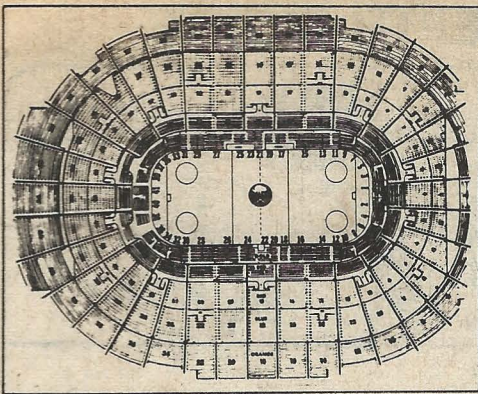
defense that is among the best in the league at blocking shots for its netminder, whoever that may be.

So that brings us, of course, to question why a stronger effort was not made to obtain goaltending capable of the big save when it is needed so badly—the final piece in the Buffalo puzzle. Off-season rumors that Atlanta's Phil Myre would be obtained for Robert proved unfounded, leaving Desjardins and journeyman Al Smith to protect the cage. They'll do a capable job, but superlative jobs win Stanley Cups.

It makes you think. Gary Bromley's gone now, having had his fill of playing one game per season after having good training camps and earning the right to play more. Had he been given a fair shot, maybe the Sabres would have found the man they so badly need. The question that has to be answered is who Imlach and Coach Floyd Smith think they are fooling. Imlach has earned a reputation as one of hockey's Einsteins; Smith will never pretend to such stature.

PAST RECORD

Year	W	L	T	Pts.	%	GF	GA	Plus or [Minus]	GF/ Game	GA/ Game	Year	Shts./ Game	Shtg. %	Power Play	Pen. Killed	Pen. Min./ Game	Playoff Finish	Result
70-71	24	39	15	63(9)	.397	217(10)	291(10)	[74](12)	2.78	3.73	70-71	26.6(14)	10.4(4)	18.8(6)	81.5(9)	15.2(4)	5E	—
71-72	16	43	19	51(12)	.327	203(12)	289(12)	[86](12)	2.60	3.71	71-72	27.2(14)	9.5(7)	18.5(8)	80.1(8)	10.6(12)	6E	—
72-73	37	27	14	88(5)	.564	257(7)	219(3)	38(6)	3.29	2.81	72-73	31.9(9)	10.3(6)	19.2(7)	85.5(2)	12.0(5)	4E	L-QF
73-74	32	34	12	76(8)	.487	242(8)	250(10)	8	3.10	3.21	73-74	31.2(7)	9.9(10)	18.5(8)	82.3(3)	10.0(13)	5E	—
74-75	49	16	15	113(1)	.706	354(2)	240(6)	114(2)	4.43	3.00	74-75	37.0(1)	12.0(3)	27.3(3)	82.9(4)	15.4(3)	1A	L-F
75-76	46	21	13	105(4)	.656	339(2)	240(6)	99(4)	4.24	3.00	75-76	33.2(6)	12.8(1)	25.4(5)	83.2(5)	11.8(15)	2A	L-QF



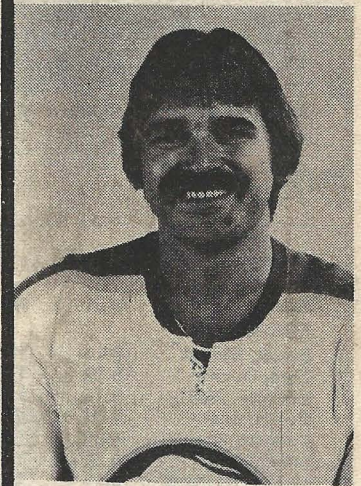
MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM



Center Gil Perreault makes the French Connection go.



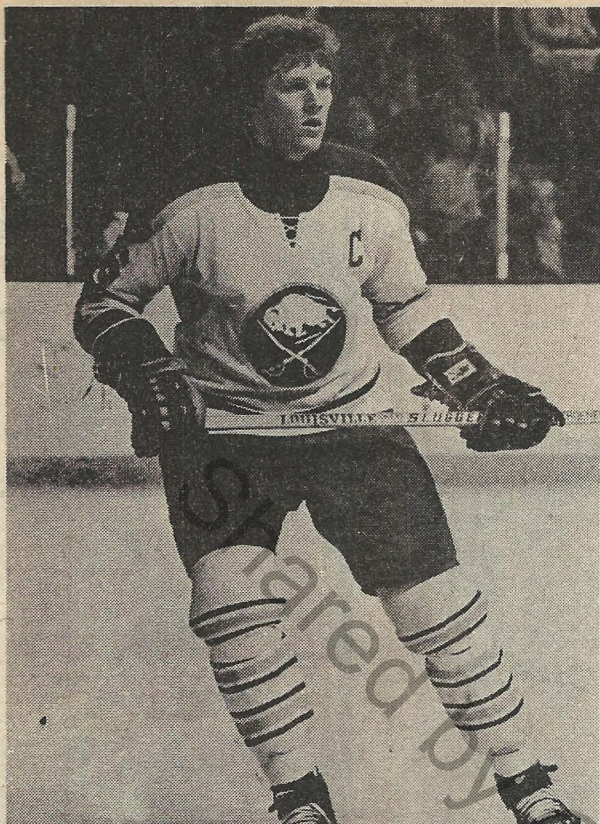
Richard Martin



Jerry Korab

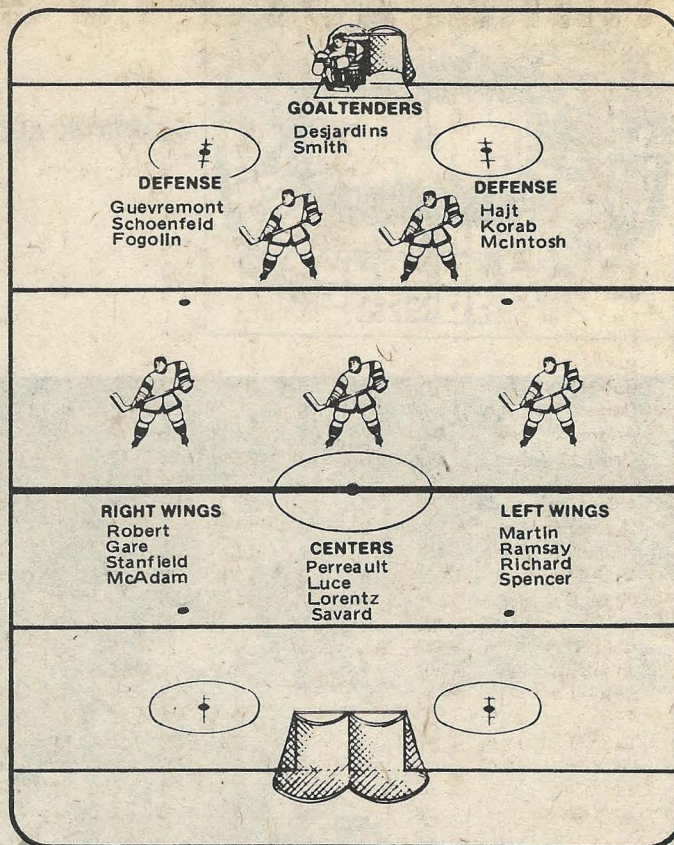


Rene Robert



Defenseman Jim Schoenfeld is the Sabres' spiritual leader

DEPTH CHART



ROSTER

1976-77 BUFFALO SABRES

Player	Hgt.	Wgt.	Place of Birth	Date of Birth	1975-76 Club	1975-76 Record		
						G	A	Pts
FORWARDS								
Deziel, Michel	5.11	180	Sorel, Que.	January 31, 1954	Hershey	25	30	55
Gare, Danny	5.09	175	Nelson, B.C.	May 14, 1954	Buffalo	50	23	73
Korzack, Neil	5.10	185	Milton, Ont.	April 18, 1953	Charlotte	46	31	77
Kowal, Joe	6.05	212	Toronto, Ont.	February 3, 1956	Hamilton Jrs.	32	45	77
Lorentz, Jim	6.00	180	Waterloo, Ont.	May 1, 1957	Buffalo	17	24	41
Luce, Don	6.02	185	London, Ont.	October 2, 1948	Buffalo	21	49	70
Martin, Richard	5.11	179	LaSalle, Que.	July 26, 1951	Buffalo	49	37	85
Martin, Terry	5.11	175	Barrie, Ont.	October 25, 1955	Buffalo-Charlotte-Hershey	15	16	31
Maze, Henry	6.00	185	Edmonton, Alta.	February 20, 1956	Edmonton	31	39	70
McAdam, Gary	5.11	175	Smiths Falls, Ont	December 31, 1955	Buffalo-Hershey	15	15	30
McSheffrey, Bryan	6.02	200	Ottawa, Ont.	September 25, 1952	Buffalo (NAHL) Cape Cod			
Perreault, Gil	6.00	202	Victoriaville, Que.	November 13, 1950	Mohawk	32	34	66
Ramsay, Craig	5.10	176	Weston, Ont.	March 17, 1951	Buffalo	44	69	113
Richard, Jacques	5.11	170	Quebec City, Que.	October 7, 1952	Buffalo	22	49	71
Robert, Rene	5.09	184	Trois-Rivieres, Que.	December 31, 1948	Buffalo	12	23	35
Savard, Andre	6.01	185	Temiscamingue, Que.	September 2, 1953	Buffalo	35	52	87
Smith, Derek	5.11	165	Quebec, Que.	July 31, 1954	Boston	17	23	40
Spencer, Brian	5.11	185	Fort St. James, B.C.	September 3, 1949	Hershey	28	32	60
Stanfield, Fred	5.10	185	Toronto, Ont.	May 4, 1944	Buffalo	13	26	39
Titanic, Morris	6.01	180	Toronto, Ont.	January 7, 1953	Buffalo	18	30	48
					Buffalo-Hershey	6	13	19
DEFENSEMEN								
Breitenback, Ken	6.01	190	Welland, Ont.	January 9, 1955	Buffalo-Hershey	1	19	20
Fogolin, Lee	6.00	204	Chicago, Ill.	February 7, 1955	Buffalo-Hershey	1	17	18
Guevremont, Josh	6.02	202	Montreal, Que.	March 1, 1951	Buffalo	12	40	52
Hajt, Bill	6.03	204	Borden, Sask.	November 18, 1951	Buffalo	6	21	27
Korab, Jerry	6.03	218	Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.	September 15, 1948	Buffalo	13	28	41
Lemieux, Don	6.01	200	Montreal, Que.	June 25, 1956	Three Rivers Jrs.	15	46	61
McIntosh, Paul	5.10	177	Listowel, Ont.	March 13, 1954	Buffalo-Hershey	0	3	3
Roscoe, Ron	5.10	190	Hamilton, Ont.	February 29, 1956	Hamilton Jrs.	6	20	26
Schoenfeld, Jim	6.02	206	Galt, Ont.	September 4, 1952	Buffalo	2	22	24
GOALTENDERS								
Desjardins, Gerry	5.11	190	Sudbury, Ont.	July 22, 1944	Buffalo	Mins.	GA	SO
Edwards, Don	5.09	160	Hamilton, Ont.	September 28, 1955	Hershey	3280	161	2
Sauve, Bob	5.09	165	Ste.-Genevieve, Que.	June 17, 1955	Providence-Charlotte	2253	128	3
Smith, Al	6.01	200	Toronto, Ont.	November 10, 1945	Buffalo	1827	80	2
						840	43	0

N.H.L. 1975-76 Statistical Review

VANCOUVER CANUCKS

	GP	G	A	PTS	S	SC PCTG	GW	GT	F	T	L	I	P	TOT	PCTG	IP	PCTG
Dennis Ververgaert	80	37	34	71	207	17.9	4	2	4	5	3	7	3	22	59.5	49	69.0
Don Lever	80	25	40	65	166	15.1	1	4	1	4	4	6	3	18	72.0	49	75.4
Chris Oddleifson	80	16	46	62	133	12.0	1	0	3	2	3	3	2	13	81.3	52	83.9
John Gould	70	32	27	59	225	14.2	5	1	8	6	7	3	1	25	78.1	48	81.4
Rick Blight	74	25	31	56	212	11.8	3	2	3	10	5	1	1	20	80.0	41	73.2
Dennis Kearns	80	5	46	51	118	4.2	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	3	60.0	39	76.5
Bobby Lalonde	71	14	36	50	143	9.8	2	0	3	5	0	1	0	9	64.3	37	74.0
Bob Dailey	67	15	24	39	187	8.0	3	0	1	3	2	4	4	14	93.3	29	74.4
Gerry O'Flaherty	68	20	18	38	129	15.5	3	2	1	3	6	2	3	15	75.0	25	65.8
Andre Boudrias	71	7	31	38	69	10.1	0	0	2	2	2	0	0	6	85.7	23	60.5
Garry Monahan	66	16	17	33	126	12.7	2	0	2	2	0	2	2	8	50.0	24	72.7
Ron Sedlbauer	56	19	13	32	135	14.1	3	1	3	2	3	5	1	14	73.7	26	81.3
Mike Robitaille	71	8	19	27	164	4.9	0	0	2	0	3	1	1	7	87.5	19	70.4
Harold Snepsts	78	3	15	18	74	4.1	1	1	0	1	1	1	0	3	100.0	14	77.8
Paulin Bordeleau	48	5	12	17	35	14.3	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	3	60.0	12	70.6
Mike Walton	10	8	8	16	27	29.6	2	0	2	1	0	2	1	6	75.0	14	87.5
Gregg Boddy	34	5	6	11	28	17.9	1	1	1	1	1	2	0	5	100.0	7	63.6
Ab Demarco	34	3	8	11	33	9.1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	66.7	6	54.5
Glen Richardson	24	3	6	9	27	11.1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	66.7	5	55.6
John Grisdale	38	2	6	8	31	6.5	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	50.0	4	50.0
Bob Murray	65	2	5	7	48	4.2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	100.0	6	85.7
Tracy Pratt	52	1	5	6	44	2.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	100.0	4	66.7
Leon Rochefort	11	0	3	3	13	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	3	100.0
Gary Smith	51	0	1	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Jim Wiley	2	0	0	0	1	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Brad Gassoff	4	0	0	0	3	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
TOTALS	80	271	457	728	2378	11.4	33	15	37	52	42	45	23	199	73.4	537	73.8

Code of abbreviations used are:

GP—Games Played.
G—Goals.
A—Assists.
PTS—Points
S—Shots On Goal.

SC. PCTG.—Scoring Percentage.
GW—Game-Winning Goals.
GT—Game-Tying Goals.
F—First Goals of Game.
T—Score-Tying Goals.

L—Leading Goals.
I—Insurance Goals (puts team 2 goals ahead).
P—Proximate Goals (brings losing team to within one goal of opponent's

score. TOT—Total Important Goals.
PCTG.—Percentage of Important Goals to Goals Scored. IP—Important Points.
PCTG.—Percentage of Important Points to Total Points.

ST. LOUIS BLUES

	GP	G	A	PTS	S	SC PCTG	GW	GT	F	T	L	I	P	TOT	PCTG	IP	PCTG
Chuck Lefley	75	43	42	85	207	20.8	9	3	6	5	7	8	4	30	69.8	65	76.5
Garry Unger	80	39	44	83	357	10.9	3	5	8	12	1	9	2	32	82.1	68	81.9
Derek Sanderson	65	24	43	67	171	14.0	1	0	5	3	3	5	4	20	83.3	53	79.1
Bob MacMillan	80	20	32	52	151	13.2	2	1	3	3	0	4	4	14	70.0	41	78.8
Red Berenson	72	20	27	47	171	11.7	1	0	4	3	3	4	0	14	70.0	36	76.6
Jerry Butler	66	17	24	41	154	11.0	3	1	4	2	3	2	2	13	76.5	31	75.6
Claude Larose	67	13	25	38	169	7.7	0	1	2	2	1	5	1	11	84.6	31	81.6
Pierre Plante	74	14	19	33	125	11.2	2	0	2	4	3	3	0	12	85.7	24	72.7
Bob Hess	78	9	23	32	117	7.7	2	0	2	0	3	2	2	9	100.0	26	81.3
Bruce Affleck	80	4	26	30	100	4.0	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	3	75.0	23	76.7
Ted Irvine	69	10	13	23	105	9.5	2	1	0	1	2	2	2	7	70.0	13	56.5
Floyd Thomson	58	8	10	18	71	11.3	1	0	1	1	2	1	1	6	75.0	14	77.8
Wayne Merrick	19	7	8	15	56	12.5	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	4	57.1	10	66.7
Larry Patey	53	8	6	14	80	10.0	0	0	4	3	1	0	0	8	100.0	11	78.6
Bob Gassoff	80	1	12	13	100	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	100.0	11	84.6
Bob Plager	63	3	8	11	43	7.0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	66.7	9	81.8
Rick Smith	24	1	7	8	32	3.1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	100.0	6	75.0
Barclay Plager	64	0	8	8	32	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	6	75.0
Rick Wilson	65	1	6	7	44	2.3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	6	85.7
Dave Hrechkosy	13	3	3	6	20	15.0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	3	100.0	6	100.0
Bert Wilson	45	2	3	5	25	8.0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	100.0	5	100.0
Brian Ogilvie	9	2	1	3	14	14.3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	50.0	2	66.7
Yves Belanger	31	0	2	2	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	2	100.0
Bruce Cowick	5	0	0	0	3	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Jamie Masters	7	0	0	0	1	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Rick Bourbonnais	7	0	0	0	5	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Mitch Babin	8	0	0	0	2	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
TOTALS																	



RED KELLY

Toronto Maple Leafs

Are the Leafs for real?

This may well be the team to watch in the 1976-77 season. The club that battled the then-defending champion Flyers through seven games in the cup quarter-finals can't be considered a fluke. And because of its relative youth, a season of experience could prove sufficient for the Leafs to challenge Buffalo for the second spot in the division.

Of course, rosy words often have been written about the Leafs in preseason, only to have hopes dashed by mediocre play when greatness had been predicted. But there really seems to be a different outlook this time, thanks in part to stellar work by goaltender Wayne Thomas, spectacular and consistent efforts by center Darryl Sittler, and power scoring by Lanny McDonald (37 goals) and Errol Thompson (43 goals).

The key for this club, it appears, is more discipline in its play. That's up to Coach Red Kelly to provide. There won't be any need to actually carry a whip behind the bench, as he did during a game in New York two years ago, nor will there be any foolishness about Pyramid Power carrying the

club to new heights of excellence. It all will depend on hard work and sacrifice (possibly the first sports cliché ever thought of) to carry the Leafs forward.

The trading of a first-round draft choice to Montreal for Thomas is easily the best investment the Toronto front office has made in this decade, for the 28-year-old—frustrated by so much inactivity with the Canadiens—proved what he can do by fashioning two shutouts in his first season of regular play (64 games). There'll be more of the same for the man in the blue-and-white mask this season behind a defense that surrendered just three more goals (240) than did Boston in the division.

The vital cog in the defensive machine is Swedish star Borje Salming, who continues to impress though his scoring statistics (16-41-57) could use some improvement. If Salming can be convinced he should carry the puck more, that may happen.

The blueline corps fades to the background a bit behind Salming, though Ian Turnbull was only a point behind his Swedish mate in scoring and Bob Neely, Jim McKenny, Rod

Seiling, and Brian Glennie are conscientious, if not spectacular.

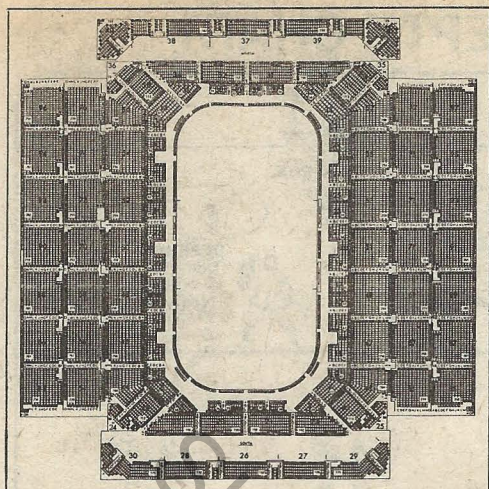
Toronto would prefer to leave the fireworks to Sittler, anyway. The first 100-point scorer in the club's history did one-tenth of his season's scoring work in that historic Saturday night game against the Bruins when he netted six shots against Rookie Dave Reece and added four assists for involvement in 10 of his team's 11 goals. His goal scoring has improved in each of the last three seasons (29, 38 and 41), and he seems assured of a 50-goal campaign this time around.

He'll be left alone, that's for certain, if Dave "Tiger" Williams is around to police the area. Collecting penalties by the bushel basket (and who can forget the quarter-final game when he hit Philadelphia's Dave Schultz on the cheek), Williams still found time for 21 goals.

Despite the optimistic outlook, there still must be a shade of caution. This is not a club marked by balanced scoring. The trio of Sittler, McDonald and Thompson produced 121 goals—better than a third of the entire team's scoring—and injuries to any of the three could ruin everything.

PAST RECORD

Year	W	L	T	Pts.	%	GF	GA	Plus or [Minus]	GF/ Game	GA/ Game	Year	Shts./ Game	Shtg. %	Power Play	Pen. Killed	Pen. Min./ Game	Finish	Playoff Result
67-68	33	31	10	76(5)	.514	209(6)	176(2)	33 (4)	2.82	2.38	67-68	32.9(4)	8.6(9)	14.3(9)	87.8(1)	8.6(10)	5E	—
68-69	35	26	15	85(5)	.559	234(5)	217(4)	17 (7)	3.08	2.86	68-69	32.5(6)	9.5(6)	16.2(9)	84.4(3)	12.6(3)	4E	L-QF
69-70	29	34	13	71(7)	.467	222(8)	242(9)	[20](7)	2.92	3.18	69-70	34.3(3)	8.5(8)	20.2(7)	77.7(9)	11.8(8)	6E	—
70-71	37	33	8	82(6)	.526	248(5)	211(5)	37 (5)	3.18	2.78	70-71	32.8(3)	9.7(6)	18.3(7)	83.7(5)	14.5(6)	4E	L-QF
71-72	33	31	14	80(6)	.513	209(9)	208(6)	1 (6)	2.68	2.67	71-72	32.3(5)	8.3(13)	19.0(7)	77.4(11)	11.4(8)	4E	L-QF
72-73	27	41	10	64(13)	.410	247(10)	279(13)	[32](12)	3.17	3.58	72-73	33.1(5)	9.5(13)	16.0(12)	78.7(12)	9.1(16)	6E	—
73-74	35	27	16	86(6)	.551	274(4)	230(4)	44 (6)	3.51	2.95	73-74	34.8(1)	10.1 (8)	18.2(9)	81.6(5)	11.5(9)	4E	L-QF
74-75	31	33	16	78(13)	.488	280(7)	309(13)	[29](13)	3.50	3.86	74-75	34.2(4)	10.2(14)	18.0(13)	74.4(16)	13.5(12)	3A	L-QF
75-76	34	31	15	83(7)	.519	294(7)	276(10)	18 (8)	3.68	3.45	75-76	33.8(4)	10.9(12)	19.3(10)	76.0(12)	17.1(3)	3A	L-QF



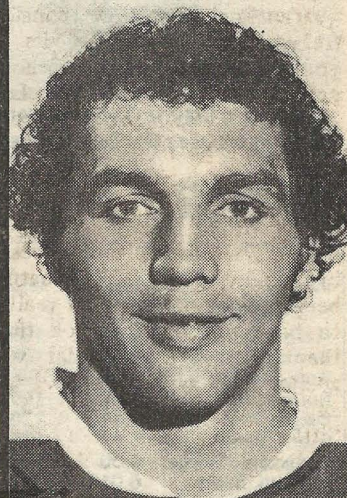
MAPLE LEAF GARDENS



Defenseman Börje Salming was a second-team All-Star last season.



Darryl Sittler



Tiger Williams

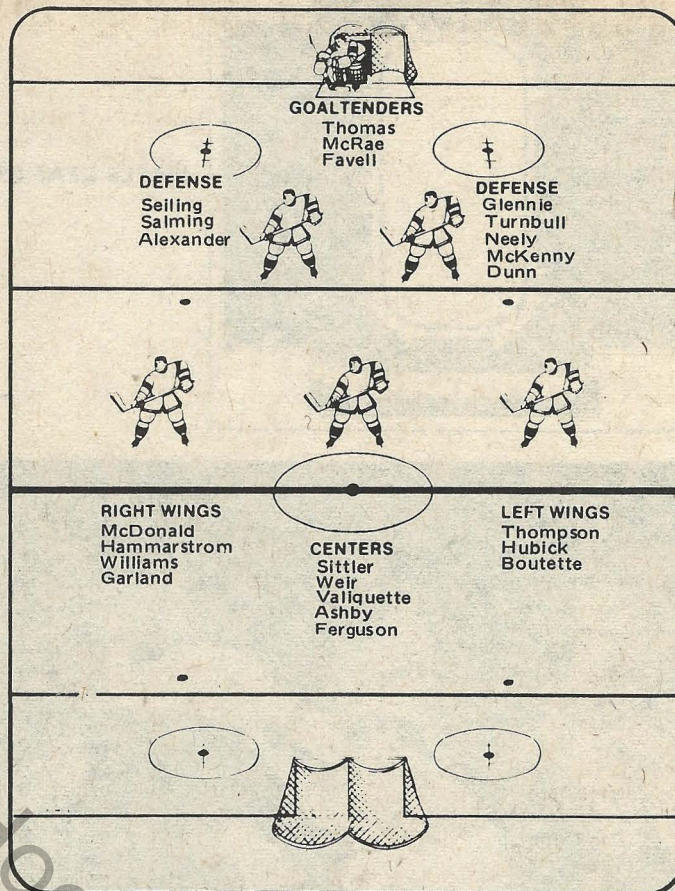


Rod Seiling



Obtaining Wayne Thomas from Montreal was one of the best moves the Leafs have made in recent years.

DEPTH CHART



ROSTER

1976-77 TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS						1975-76 Record		
Players	Hgt.	Wgt.	Place of Birth	Date of Birth	1975-76 Club	G	A	Pts.
FORWARDS								
Ashby, Don	6.01	185	Kamloops, B.C.	March 8, 1955	Toronto-Okla. City	6	15	21
Belanger, Alain	6.01	189		January 18, 1956	Sherbrooke Jrs.	26	25	51
Boutette, Pat	5.08	175	Windsor, Ont.	March 1, 1952	Toronto	10	22	32
Burgess, Les	6.00	170	So. Porcupine, Ont.	September 19, 1953	Okla. City	18	20	38
Daigle, Paul	5.11	179	Meaford, Ont.	August 10, 1950	Okla. City	7	16	23
Evans, Paul	5.11	175	Peterborough, Ont.	February 24, 1955	Okla. City	7	23	30
Ferguson, George	6.00	195	Trenton, Ont.	August 22, 1952	Toronto	12	32	44
Garland, Scott	6.01	185	Regina, Sask.	May 16, 1952	Toronto-Okla. City	4	3	7
Hammarstrom, Inge	6.00	180	Sundsvall, Sweden	January 20, 1948	Toronto	19	21	40
Hubick, Greg	5.11	185	Strasbourg, Sask.	August 12, 1951	Toronto	6	8	14
McDonald, Lanny	6.00	185	Hanna, Alta.	February 16, 1953	Toronto	37	56	93
McKenny, Jim	6.00	185	Ottawa, Ont.	December 1, 1946	Toronto	10	19	29
Ruest, Mike	5.10	175	Cornwall, Ont.	June 12, 1951	Okla. City	13	19	32
Sittler, Darryl	6.00	195	Kitchener, Ont.	September 18, 1950	Toronto	41	59	100
Stoughton, Blaine	5.11	185	Gilbert Plns., Man.	March 13, 1953	Toronto-Okla. City	6	11	17
Thompson, Errol	5.09	190	Summerside, P.E.I.	May 28, 1950	Toronto	43	37	80
Valiquette, Jack	6.02	195	St. Thomas, Ont.	March 18, 1956	Toronto-Okla. City	10	23	33
Warner, Bob	5.10	180	Grimsby, Ont.	December 13, 1950	Okla. City	7	20	27
Weir, Stan	6.01	170	Ponoka, Alta.	March 17, 1952	Toronto	19	32	51
Williams, Dave	5.11	180	Weyburn, Sask.	February 3, 1954	Toronto	21	19	40
DEFENSEMEN								
Alexander, Claire	6.01	175	Collingwood, Ont.	June 16, 1945	Toronto-Okla. City	2	6	8
Carlyle, Randy	5.10	198		April 19, 1956	Sudbury Jrs.	15	64	79
Dunn, Dave	6.02	200	Moosomin, Sask.	August 19, 1948	Toronto-Okla. City	0	8	8
Glennie, Brian	6.01	195	Toronto, Ont.	August 29, 1949	Toronto	0	8	8
Neely, Bob	6.00	210	Sarnia, Ont.	November 9, 1953	Toronto	9	13	22
Salminger, Borje	6.01	185	Kiruna, Sweden	April 17, 1951	Toronto	16	41	57
Seiling, Rod	6.00	190	Elmira, Ont.	November 14, 1944	Toronto	3	16	19
Turnbull, Ian	6.00	195	Montreal, Que.	December 22, 1953	Toronto	20	36	56
Walker, Kurt	6.03	200	Weymouth, Mass.	June 10, 1954	Okla. City-Toronto	4	5	9
GOALTENDERS						Mins.	GA	SO
Favell, Doug	5.10	175	St. Catharines, Ont.	April 5, 1945	Toronto	160	15	0
McRae, Gord	6.03	180	Sherbrooke, Que.	April 12, 1948	Toronto	956	59	0
Thomas, Wayne	6.02	205	Ottawa, Ont.	October 9, 1947	Toronto	3684	196	2

N.H.L. 1975-76 Statistical Review

KANSAS CITY SCOUTS

	GP	G	A	PTS	S	SC PCTG	GW	GT	F	T	L	I	P	TOT	PCTG	IP	PCTG
Guy Charron	78	27	44	71	226	11.9	4	2	5	3	7	1	4	20	74.1	52	73.2
Wilf Paiement	57	21	22	43	178	11.8	3	1	3	3	5	2	1	14	66.7	29	67.4
Gary Bergman	75	5	33	38	125	4.0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	40.0	29	76.3
Craig Patrick	80	17	18	35	143	11.9	0	1	2	1	1	2	3	9	52.9	21	60.0
Gary Croteau	79	19	14	33	139	13.7	1	2	1	2	3	5	2	13	68.4	24	72.7
Robin Burns	78	13	18	31	145	9.0	0	0	3	1	3	2	1	10	76.9	23	74.2
Dave Hudson	74	11	20	31	114	9.6	0	0	2	4	0	1	1	8	72.7	18	58.1
Randy Rota	71	12	14	26	146	8.2	1	0	6	2	1	2	0	11	91.7	23	88.5
Simon Nolet	41	10	15	25	123	8.1	1	0	2	3	2	2	0	9	90.0	18	72.0
Chuck Arnason	39	14	10	24	122	11.5	0	3	2	3	2	2	1	10	71.4	15	62.5
Phil Roberto	37	7	15	22	89	7.9	0	0	1	0	1	1	2	5	71.4	17	77.3
Dennis Patterson	69	5	16	21	76	6.6	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	3	60.0	14	66.7
Buster Harvey	39	5	12	17	76	6.6	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	3	60.0	12	70.6
Denis Dupere	43	6	8	14	37	16.2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	33.3	8	57.1
Jean-Guy Lagace	69	3	10	13	75	4.0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	33.3	9	69.2
Ed Gilbert	41	4	8	12	74	5.4	0	1	0	1	1	2	0	4	100.0	8	66.7
Larry Johnston	72	2	10	12	77	2.6	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	100.0	9	75.0
Steve Durbano	37	1	11	12	65	1.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	5	41.7
Henry Boucha	28	4	7	11	42	9.5	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	25.0	4	36.4
Germain Gagnon	31	1	9	10	30	3.3	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	100.0	8	80.0
Jim McElmury	38	2	6	8	43	4.7	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	50.0	5	62.5
Hugh Harvey	10	1	1	2	11	9.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	50.0
Ken Murray	23	0	2	2	12	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	2	100.0
Claude Houde	25	0	2	2	16	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	2	100.0
Terry McDonald	8	0	1	1	4	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Bill McKenzie	22	0	1	1	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Norm Dube	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Richard Lemieux	2	0	0	0	1	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Don Cairns	7	0	0	0	2	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Roger Lemelin	11	0	0	0	1	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
TOTALS	80	190	327	517	2192	8.7	12	12	31	27	27	26	18	129	67.9	358	69.2

Code of abbreviations used are:

GP - Games Played.
G - Goals.
A - Assists.
PTS - Points
S - Shots On Goal.

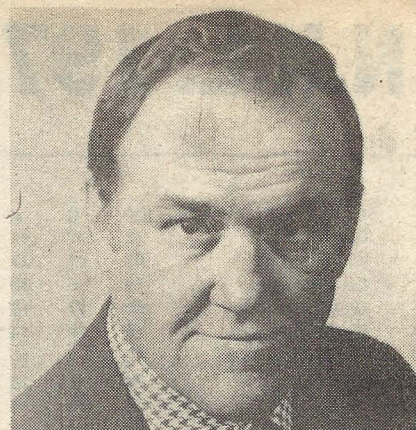
SC PCTG - Scoring Percentage.
GW - Game-Winning Goals.
GT - Game-Tying Goals.
F - First Goals of Game.
T - Score-Tying Goals.

L - Leading Goals.
I - Insurance Goals (puts team 2 goals ahead).
P - Proximate Goals (brings losing team to within one goal of opponent's

score. TOT - Total Important Goals.
PCTG - Percentage of Important Goals to Goals Scored. IP - Important Points.
PCTG - Percentage of Important Points to Total Points.

MINNESOTA NORTH STARS

	GP	G	A	PTS	S	SC PCTG	GW	GT	F	T	L	I	P	TOT	PCTG	IP	PCTG
Tim Young	63	18	33	51	127	14.2	2	2	3	3	1	3	0	10	55.6	36	70.6
Dean Talafoos	79	18	30	48	137	13.1	2	1	0	2	7	1	5	15	83.3	35	72.9
Bill Goldsworthy	68	24	22	46	174	13.8	3	0	3	4	1	5	2	15	62.5	31	67.4
Dennis Hextall	59	11	35	46	93	11.8	0	0	3	1	1	2	1	8	72.7	30	65.2
Ernie Hicke	80	23	19	42	185	12.4	4	0	3	4	0	8	2	17	73.9	23	66.7
Pierre Jarry	59	21	18	39	143	14.7	0	0	4	2	3	3	5	17	81.0	29	74.4
Bryan Hextall	58	8	20	28	89	9.0	1	1	2	2	0	4	0	8	100.0	21	75.0
Dwight Bialowas	58	5	18	23	87	5.7	1	0	0	1	1	0	2	4	80.0	15	65.2
Blake Dunlop	33	9	11	20	55	16.4	1	1	2	1	2	0	1	6	66.7	14	70.0
Glen Sather	72	9	10	19	73	12.3	1	0	3	0	1	1	0	5	55.6	12	63.2
Craig Cameron	78	8	10	18	73	11.0	0	0	0	1	1	1	3	6	75.0	14	77.8
Doug Hicks	80	5	13	18	102	4.9	1	0	0	2	0	1	1	4	80.0	15	83.3
Lou Nanne	79	3	14	17	83	3.6	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	3	100.0	14	82.4
Dennis O'Brien	78	1	14	15	72	1.4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	9	80.0
Tom Reid	69	0	15	15	90	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9.0	11	73.3
Bill Hogaboam	18	7	7	14	44	15.9	0	1	1	3	0	0	0	4	57.1	9	64.3
Steve Jensen	19	7	6	13	49	14.3	1	0	0	2	0	1	1	4	57.1	8	61.5
Dave Cressman	80	4	8	12	72	5.6	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	3	75.0	8	66.7
Fred Barrett	79	2	9	11	70	2.9	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	100.0	8	72.7
Norm Gratton	32	7	3	10	51	13.7	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	42.9	6	60.0
John Flesch	33	3	2	5	26	11.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	66.7	4	80.0
Doug Rombough	19	2	2	4	9	22.2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	50.0	2	50.0
Bill Plager	20	0	3	3	9	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	33.3
Mike Antonovich	12	0	2	2	22	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	50.0
Jerry Engele	17	0	1	1	16	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	1	100.0
Chris Ahrens	2	0	0	0	1	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Richard Nantais	5	0	0	0	2	0.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
TOTALS	80	195	325	520	1954	10.0	20	7	27	30	21	32	27	137	70.3	362	69.6



JACK EVANS

Cleveland Barons

Can Barons pick up where Seals left off?

There is cause for rejoicing in Cleveland, not only by fans who did not seem to care for the World Hockey Association's product but by players who finally know—after years of indecision and concern—exactly where they will play and stay for the seasons to come. Now it is up to the athletes to continue the upswing that showed last season and make the playoffs for the first time in seven years.

The talent is there, young, fresh and unawed by the strongest foe. Goaltending is a forte, with Gilles Meloche and Gary Simmons expected to halve the work as they did last year.

But far more important than the netminding strength is the fact that the massive, endless, wearying load of travel the team had to endure no longer will trouble them. Having moved close to the geographical center of the United States, their mileage may be cut by as much as half; and any coach will tell you that's worth 10 to 15 points a season.

Well, with those 10 to 15 points, Cleveland definitely is playoff material. Freshman center Dennis Maruk earned his share of votes in the Rookie of the Year balloting after a

30-goal first season and can be expected to lead the offense towards bigger and better things in 1976-77. Left wing Al MacAdam also reached the 30-goal plateau, tallying 32 while early-season acquisition Wayne Merrick (stolen from the St. Louis Blues) finished with 32 after playing on a line with veteran Gary Sabourin and rookie Bob Girard.

There is room for seasoning on defense, though it will be good to have veteran Jim Neilson back there to direct things after playing just 26 games before tearing ligaments in his knee. Joining "The Chief" are Rick Hampton (another youngster with a future), Len Frig, Bob Murdoch and Bob Stewart.

That seasoning may well be combined with some added muscle, if off-season hopes are to come true. That, too, will be significant. "When the other team knows it's going to run into some solid hitting," says Stewart, "they just don't come at you with the same enthusiasm."

"There are always some players on the other club who try to intimidate your less physical players. But a lot of them are just talkers who think they can bully some of the rookies. I know about that because I do it myself now

and then."

Stewart's feelings are backed up emphatically by Coach Jack Evans, who has turned the team around from a slipshod, careless crew to a club of the future.

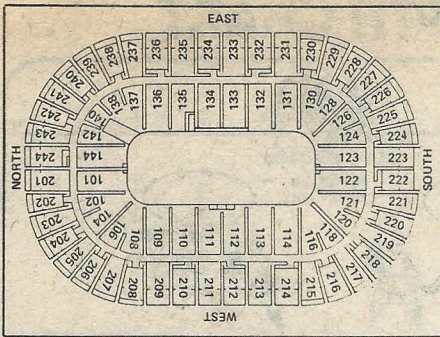
"We need more muscle. We simply have to be more physical," says Evans. Some new strength would make sure that peanut-sized Cleveland forwards like Maruk don't get pushed around as much as last season. Swedish draft choice Bjorn Johansson may fill the bill though imports from that country so far have shown a somewhat discouraging propensity for gentlemanly play.

There also should be some beefing up of the scoring attack, which was incapable of scoring goals on the road, it seems. Last year's Seals managed just 114 goals while winning only 11 times in 40 tries on foreign ice.

But that brings us back to the more than 70,000 miles the team had to do as California and won't have to face as Cleveland. In one of the best arenas around, with fewer hassles to confront and with talented youngsters like Dave Gardner and Ralph Klassen, the newly-relocated franchise may celebrate its liberation from doubt and debt by returning to prominence among post-1967 franchises.

PAST RECORD CALIFORNIA

Year	W	L	T	Pts.	%	GF	GA	Plus or Minus	GF/ Game	GA/ Game	Year	Shts./ Game	Shtg. %	Power Play	Pen. Killed	Pen. Min./ Game	Finish	Playoff Result
67-68	15	42	17	47(12)	.318	153(12)	219(8)	[66](12)	2.07	2.96	67-68	25.0(12)	8.3(11)	15.8(7)	82.6(9)	10.6(5)	6W	—
68-69	29	36	11	69(8)	.454	219(7)	251(9)	[32](8)	2.88	3.30	68-69	32.5(6)	9.7(4)	15.4(8)	81.4(9)	10.7(8)	2W	L-OF
69-70	22	40	14	58(10)	.382	169(11)	243(10)	[74](11)	2.22	3.20	69-70	28.0(12)	8.0(10)	13.9(12)	81.0(6)	11.1(12)	4W	L-OF
70-71	20	53	5	45(14)	.288	199(13)	320(14)	[121](14)	2.55	4.10	70-71	29.1(12)	8.8(10)	12.3(14)	77.2(11)	12.0(12)	7W	—
71-72	21	39	18	60(11)	.385	216(7)	288(11)	[72](11)	2.77	3.69	71-72	28.1(12)	9.8(6)	15.8(12)	78.8(9)	12.9(12)	6W	—
72-73	16	46	16	48(15)	.308	213(14)	323(14)	[110](15)	2.73	4.14	72-73	26.7(15)	10.2(9)	16.4(11)	76.8(15)	10.7(13)	8W	—
73-74	13	55	10	36(16)	.230	195(15)	342(16)	[147](16)	2.50	4.38	73-74	25.3(16)	9.8(11)	12.7(16)	79.2(13)	8.3(16)	8W	—
74-75	19	48	13	51(16)	.319	212(16)	316(14)	[104](15)	2.65	3.95	74-75	26.9(17)	9.9(16)	13.7(17)	75.0(15)	13.8(10)	4A	—
75-76	27	42	11	65(14)	.406	250(14)	278(11)	[28](12)	3.13	3.48	75-76	28.7(14)	10.9(11)	18.6(12)	80.2(9)	13.2(9)	4A	—



THE COLISEUM



'Peanut' Dennis Maruk hammered home 30 goals in his rookie season.



Al MacAdam



Wayne Merrick

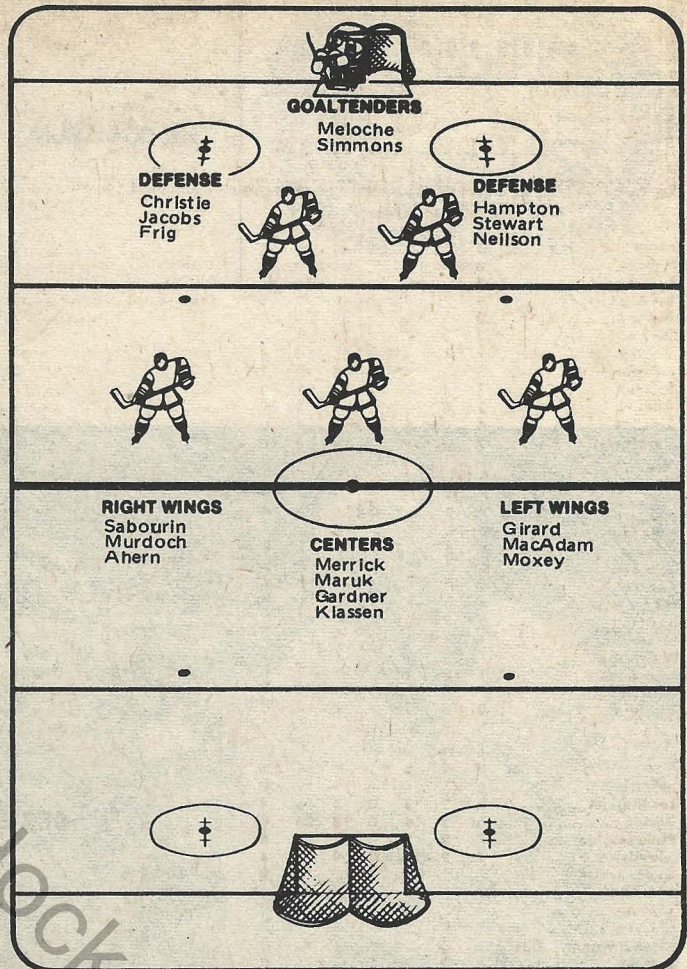


Jim Neilson

DEPTH CHART



Gary Simmons will split the goaltending with Gilles Meloche.



ROSTER

1976-77 CLEVELAND BARONS

Player	Hgt.	Wgt.	Place of Birth	Date of Birth	1975-76 Club	1975-76 Record		
						G	A	Pts
FORWARDS								
Ahern, Fred	6.00	180	Boston, Mass.	February 12, 1952	Calif.-St. Lake City	17	8	25
Gardner, Dave	6.00	185	Toronto, Ont.	August 23, 1952	California	16	32	48
Girard, Bob	6.00	175	Montreal, Que.	April 12, 1949	California	16	26	42
Holt, Gary	5.09	175	Sarnia, Ont.	January 1, 1952	Calif.-St. Lake City	6	5	11
Klassen, Ralph	5.11	175	Muenster, Sask.	September 15, 1955	California	6	15	21
MacAdam, Al	6.00	185	Charlottetown, P.E.I.	March 16, 1952	California	32	31	63
Maruk, Dennis	5.08	165	Toronto, Ont.	November 17, 1955	California	30	32	62
Meeke, Brent	5.11	172	Toronto, Ont.	July 20, 1950	Salt Lake City	23	39	62
Merrick, Wayne	6.01	190	Sarnia, Ont.	April 23, 1952	St. Louis-Calif.	32	35	67
Moxey, Jim	6.01	190	Toronto, Ont.	May 28, 1953	Calif.-St. Lake City	10	16	26
Murdoch, Bob	5.11	170	Cranbrook, B.C.	January 29, 1954	California	22	27	49
Sabourin, Gary	5.11	180	Parry Sound, Ont.	December 4, 1943	California	21	28	49
Simmer, Charlie	6.03	195	Terrace Bay, Ont.	March 20, 1954	Calif.-St. Lake City	1	1	2
Spring, Frank	6.03	216	Cranbrook, B.C.	January 1, 1947	Salt Lake City	44	29	73
Stenlund, Vern	6.01	176		November 4, 1956	London Jrs.	44	75	119
Williams, Butch	5.11	195	Duluth, Minn.	September 8, 1952	Calif.-St. Lake City	0	4	4
DEFENSEMEN								
Christie, Mike	6.00	190	Big Springs, Texas	December 20, 1949	California	3	18	21
Hampton, Rick	6.00	170	Toronto, Ont.	October 30, 1950	California	14	37	51
Jacobs, Tim	5.10	180	Keswick, Ont.	March 28, 1952	Calif.-St. Lake City	0	10	10
Johansson, Bjorn	6.00	185	Sweden	1956	Orebro IK (Sweden)			
Neilson, Jim	6.02	205	Big River, Sask.	November 28, 1941	California	1	6	7
Pescut, George	6.01	197	Saskatoon, Sask.	June 17, 1953	California	3	9	12
Price, Tom	6.01	190	Toronto, Ont.	July 12, 1954	Salt Lake City	11	15	26
Stewart, Bob	6.01	205	Charlottetown, P.E.I.	November 10, 1950	California	4	17	21
GOALTENDERS								
Meloche, Gilles	5.10	170	Montreal, Que.	July 12, 1950	California	2440	140	1
Simmons, Gary	6.02	200	Charlottetown, P.E.I.	July 19, 1944	California	2360	131	2
						Mins.	GA	SO

1975-76 N.H.L. Playoff Statistics

PLAYOFF STANDINGS

	P	W	L	T	F	A	Pts
Montreal	13	12	1	0	44	26	24
Philadelphia	16	8	8	0	61	49	16
Islanders	13	7	6	0	43	39	14
Los Angeles	9	5	4	0	17	27	10
Toronto	10	5	5	0	31	36	10
Boston	12	5	7	0	38	33	10
Buffalo	9	4	5	0	25	29	8
Pittsburgh	3	1	2	0	3	8	2
St. Louis	3	1	2	0	8	7	2
Atlanta	2	0	2	0	1	2	0
Chicago	4	0	4	0	3	13	0
Vancouver	2	0	2	0	4	8	0

Home Record

	P	W	L	T	F	A	Pts
Montreal	7	7	0	0	25	12	14
Philadelphia	9	6	3	0	36	22	12
Toronto	5	5	0	0	25	13	10
Islanders	6	5	1	0	24	15	10
Buffalo	5	4	1	0	16	12	8
Los Angeles	4	3	1	0	12	11	6
Boston	6	3	3	0	20	13	6
St. Louis	1	1	0	0	5	2	2
Pittsburgh	1	1	0	0	2	0	2
Vancouver	1	0	1	0	1	3	0
Atlanta	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
Chicago	2	0	2	0	2	6	0

Road Record

	P	W	L	T	F	A	Pts
Montreal	6	5	1	0	19	14	10
Los Angeles	5	2	3	0	5	16	4
Boston	6	2	4	0	18	20	4
Philadelphia	7	2	5	0	25	27	4
Islanders	7	2	5	0	19	24	4
Vancouver	1	0	1	0	3	5	0
St. Louis	2	0	2	0	3	5	0
Atlanta	1	0	1	1	2	0	0
Chicago	2	0	2	0	1	7	0
Pittsburgh	2	0	2	0	1	8	0
Buffalo	4	0	4	0	9	17	0
Toronto	5	0	5	0	6	23	0

Preliminary Round

SERIES 'A'

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Buffalo	3	2	1	7	8	4
St. Louis	3	1	2	8	7	2

(Buffalo wins best-of-three series 2-1)

GAMES COMPLETED

Tue. April 6

Buffalo 2 at St. Louis 5

Thu. April 8

St. Louis 2 at Buffalo 3

Fri. April 9

St. Louis 1 at Buffalo 2

SERIES 'B'

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Islanders	2	2	0	8	4	4
Vancouver	2	0	2	4	8	0

(Islanders wins best-of-three series 2-0)

GAMES COMPLETED

Tue. April 6

Vancouver 3 at N.Y. Islanders 5

Thu. April 8

N.Y. Islanders 3 at Vancouver 1

SERIES 'C'

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Los Angeles	2	2	0	3	1	4
Atlanta	2	0	2	1	3	0

(Los Angeles wins best-of-three series 2-0)

GAMES COMPLETED

Tue. April 6

Atlanta 1 at Los Angeles 2

Thu. April 8

Los Angeles 1 at Atlanta 0

SERIES 'D'

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Toronto	3	2	1	8	3	4
Pittsburgh	3	1	2	3	8	2

(Toronto wins best-of-three series 2-1)

GAMES COMPLETED

Tue. April 6

Pittsburgh 1 at Toronto 4

Thu. April 8

Toronto 0 at Pittsburgh 2

Fri. April 9

Pittsburgh 0 at Toronto 4

Quarter-Finals

SERIES 'E'

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Montreal	4	4	0	13	3	8
Chicago	4	0	4	3	13	0

(Montreal wins best-of-seven series 4-0)

GAMES COMPLETED

Sun. April 11

Chicago 0 at Montreal 4

Tue. April 13

Chicago 1 at Montreal 3

Thu. April 15

Montreal 2 at Chicago 1

Sun. April 18

Montreal 4 at Chicago 1

SERIES 'F'

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Philadelphia	7	4	3	33	23	8
Toronto	7	3	4	23	33	6

(Philadelphia wins best-of-seven series 4-3)

GAMES COMPLETED

Mon. April 12

Toronto 1 at Philadelphia 4

Tue. April 13

Toronto 1 at Philadelphia 3

Thu. April 15

Philadelphia 4 at Toronto 5

Sat. April 17

Philadelphia 3 at Toronto 4

Tue. April 20

Toronto 1 at Philadelphia 7

Thu. April 22

Philadelphia 5 at Toronto 8

Sun. April 25

Toronto 3 at Philadelphia 7

SERIES 'G'

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Boston	7	4	3	26	14	8
Los Angeles	7	3	4	14	26	6

(Boston wins best-of-seven series 4-3)

GAMES COMPLETED

Sun. April 11

Los Angeles 0 at Boston 4

Tue. April 13

Los Angeles 3 at Boston 2

Thu. April 15

Boston 4 at Los Angeles 6

Sat. April 17

Boston 3 at Los Angeles 0

Tue. April 20

Los Angeles 1 at Boston 7

Thu. April 22

Boston 3 at Los Angeles 4

Sun. April 25

Los Angeles 0 at Boston 3

SERIES 'H'

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Islanders	6	4	2	21	18	8
Buffalo	6	2	4	18	21	4

(Islanders win best-of-seven series 4-2)

GAMES COMPLETED

Sun. April 11

Islanders 3 at Buffalo 5

Tue. April 13

Islanders 2 at Buffalo 3

Thu. April 15

Buffalo 3 at Islanders 5

Sat. April 17

Buffalo 2 at Islanders 4

Tue. April 20

Islanders 4 at Buffalo 3

Thu. April 22

Buffalo 2 at Islanders 3

Semi-Finals

SERIES 'I'

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Montreal	5	4	1	17	14	8
Islanders	5	1	4	14	17	2

(Montreal wins best-of-seven series 4-1)

GAMES COMPLETED

Tue. April 27

Islanders 2 at Montreal 3

Thu. April 29

Islanders 3 at Montreal 4

Sat. May 1

Montreal 3 at Islanders 2

Tue. May 4

Montreal 2 at Islanders 5

Thu. May 6

Islanders 2 at Montreal 5

SERIES 'J'

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Philadelphia	5	4	1	19	12	8
Boston	5	1	4	12	19	2

(Philadelphia wins best-of-seven series 4-1)

GAMES COMPLETED

Tue. April 27

Boston 4 at Philadelphia 2

Thu. April 29

Boston 1 at Philadelphia 2

Sun. May 2

Philadelphia 5 at Boston 2

Tue. May 4

Philadelphia 4 at Boston 2

Thu. May 6

Boston 3 at Philadelphia 6

Finals

SERIES 'K'

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Montreal	4	4	0	14	9	8
Philadelphia	4	0	4	9	14	0

(Montreal wins best-of-seven series 4-0)

GAMES COMPLETED

Sun. May 9

Philadelphia 3 at Montreal 4

Tue. May 11

Philadelphia 1 at Montreal 2

Thu. May 13

Montreal 3 at Philadelphia 2

Sun. May 16

Montreal 5 at Philadelphia 3

Top Playoff Scorers

	GP	G	A	Pts
Reggie Leach, Philadelphia	16	19	5	24
Denis Potvin, Islanders	13	5	14	19
Guy Lafleur, Montreal	13	7	10	17
Jean Ratelle, Boston	12	8	8	16
Bobby Clarke, Philadelphia	16	2	14	16
Steve Shutt, Montreal	13	7	8	15
Jude Drouin, Islanders	13	6	9	15
Mel Bridgman, Philadelphia	16	6	8	14
Larry Goodenough, Philadelphia	16	3	11	14
Bill Barber, Philadelphia	16	6	7	13
Darryl Sittler, Toronto	10	5	7	12
Pete Mahovlich, Montreal	13	4	8	12
Don Saleski, Philadelphia	16	6	5	11
Gregg Sheppard, Boston	12	5	6	11
Rick Martin, Buffalo	9	4	7	11
Orest Kindrachuk, Philadelphia	16	4	7	11
Brad Park, Boston	11	3	8	11
Ian Turnbull, Toronto	10	2	9	11

Scoring by Teams

ATLANTA

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Barry Gibbs	2	1	0	1	2
Pat Quinn	2	0	1	1	2
Bill Clement	2	0	1	1	0
Tom Lysiak	2	0	0	0	2
Eric Vail	2	0	0	0	0
Claude St. Sauveur	2	0	0	0	0

continued on page 65



Clarence Campbell Conference

Patrick Division

ROUNDUPS

By NORM MAC LEAN

Teams in order of predicted finish.



AL ARBOUR

New York Islanders

Giant step for Islanders

The New York Islanders were the only team to interrupt Montreal's unbeaten march to the Stanley Cup, managing one win in a five game semi-final series. On that basis, and the talent and youth of their personnel, the Isles are hereby designated to unseat the Flyers in the Patrick Division.

There is pressure on the young five year team, which so suddenly became numero uno in New York, pressure to win the Stanley Cup, which the Rangers have failed to bring to Gotham since 1950. The fans are still solidly behind coach Al Arbour and his charges, but goalie Chico Resch admitted he felt the "had to win" feeling in the playoffs last Spring.

"It's something you can feel. Everyone expects us to do well and we want to do well. We can almost taste it," said Resch.

Statistically Resch is the best goalie in the NHL and with Billy Smith forms a capable combination. Arbour refuses to rank either as tops, claiming, "we have two number one goalies."

Smith won the Buffalo series last Spring, after Resch faltered, just as Chico was the man of the hour in 1975.

The tough Islander defense is led by Denis Potvin, the Norris Trophy winner in the absence of Bobby Orr. It

is bulwarked by steady Bert Marshall, unsung Gary Hart and mechanical Dave Lewis. A spare part, on defense, is Jean Potvin, who also worked the point on the power play and was used on a fourth line to the tune of 17 goals and 55 assists for 72 points. He was third to little brother Denis, with 98 points and rookie whiz Bryan Trottier, who had 95.

Trottier captured the Calder Trophy as the rookie of the year and made a solid offensive threat of the line he centers for Billy Harris and Clark Gillies. The huge Gillies, called "Jethro" by the players, is a peace maker when aroused. He popped 34 goals, the most on the team—and at 22, can only get better.

Other talented people include veteran forwards Jude Drouin and J.P. Parise, who along with captain Ed Westfall form the Veteran Line. Westfall slipped a bit in the season, but when he broke his foot in the playoffs, his true value showed. He played hurt in the Buffalo series and the Isles won. He had to quit part of the way through the Montreal series—and the Isles lost.

Andre St. Laurent, Bob Nystrom, who matured and improved greatly, and gritty scrapper Garry Howatt form the third line. There are those who say that when Howatt can't play regular,

the Islanders will win the Cup, but the toy tiger keeps plugging away and exploded for 21 goals after a slow start.

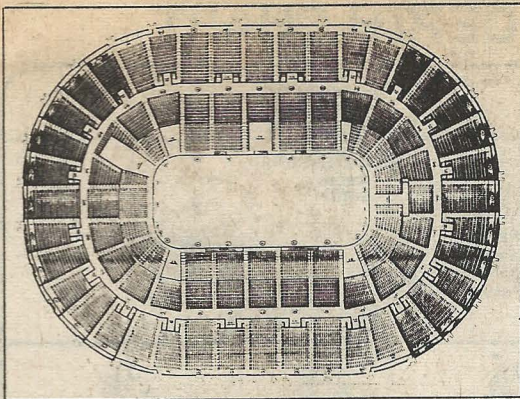
The Islanders still rate behind Montreal and Boston in any rating of NHL teams. They handle the Canadiens fairly well in regular season play, can't beat Boston and give the Flyers real trouble. Their playoff win over Buffalo, previously a jinx team, showed New York's Flyer type defensive system could throttle a high powered attack.

The fledgling team has had great success in introducing a new player of high caliber every one of its four seasons. Billy Harris came first, then Denis Potvin, then Gillies and last year Trottier. Right now they are about two players away from challenging the Canadiens. Whether they get those players is a real challenge for Bill Torrey, the masterful Mr. Bowtie, who is the Islanders general manager. The hope is that Alex McKendry, their number one draft, a right wing from Sudbury, can step in and play regular.

The Isles have the guns, the talent, the desire and the conditioning to outlast Philadelphia and win the Patrick. It gets rougher in the playoffs, as Bryan Trottier found out last year. Close checking and all that, but New York is still a Cup contender, not a pretender.

PAST RECORD

Year	W	L	T	Pts.	%	GF	GA	Plus or [Minus]	GF/ Game	GA/ Game	Year	Shts./ Game	Shtg. %	Power Play	Pen. Killed	Pen. Min./ Game	Finish	Playoff Result
72-73	12	60	6	30(16)	.192	170(16)	347(16)	[177] (16)	2.18	4.45	72-73	25.0(16)	8.7(15)	10.8(16)	75.9(16)	11.3(8)	8E	—
73-74	19	41	18	56(15)	.358	182(16)	247(8)	[65] (14)	2.33	3.17	73-74	26.0(15)	8.9(15)	13.9(15)	75.9(15)	13.7(3)	8E	—
74-75	33	25	22	88(7)	.550	264(12)	221(3)	43 (6)	3.30	2.76	74-75	29.6(11)	11.2(7)	18.8(11)	84.7(2)	14.0(8)	3P	L-SF
75-76	42	21	17	101(5)	.631	297(6)	190(2)	107 (3)	3.71	2.38	75-76	30.4(9)	12.2(4)	31.7(1)	85.4(1)	16.0(4)	2P	L-SF



NASSAU VETERANS
MEMORIAL COLISEUM



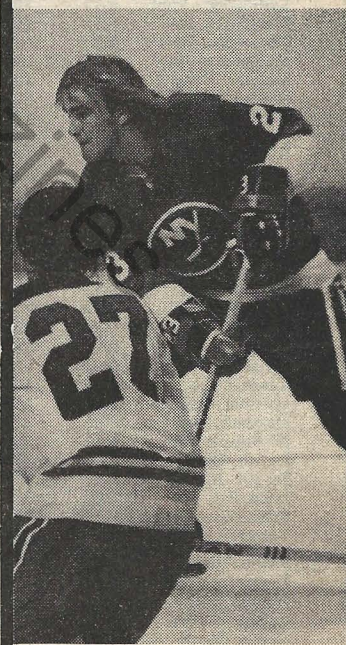
Denis Potvin captured the Norris Trophy last year, succeeding Bobby Orr.



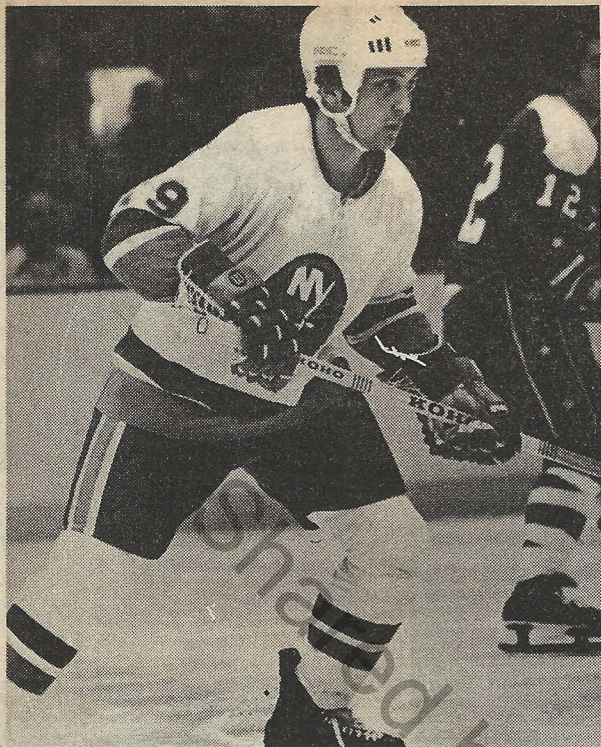
Glenn Resch



Bill Smith

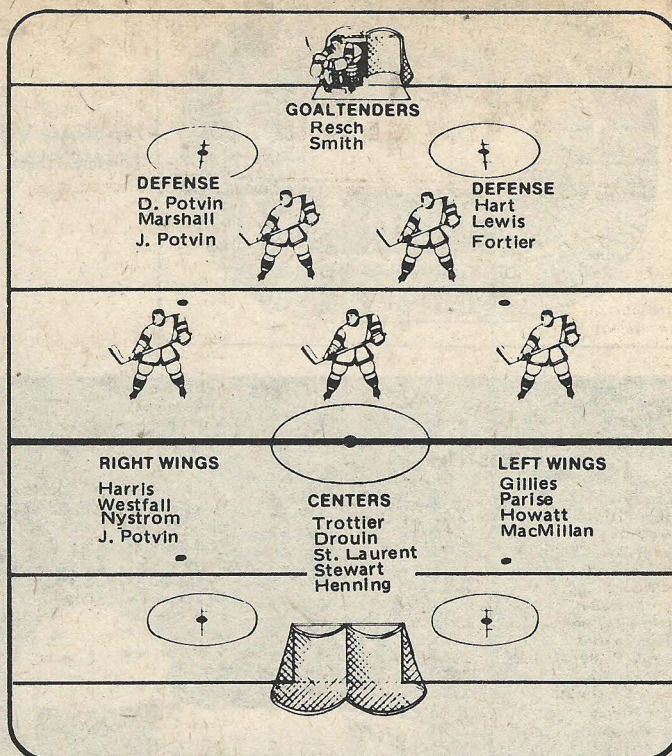


Bob Nystrom



Bryan Trottier won the Calder Trophy at age 19.

DEPTH CHART



ROSTER

1976-77 N.Y. ISLANDERS

Player	Hgt.	Wgt.	Place of Birth	Date of Birth	1975-76 Club	1975-76 Record		
						G	A	Pts.
FORWARDS								
Anderson, Brad	6.00	178	Regina, Sask.	August 31, 1954	Ft. Worth	32	40	72
Bourne, Bob	6.02	200	Kindersley, Sask.	June 21, 1954	Ft. Worth-N.Y. Islanders	31	47	78
Craig, Greg	5.10	170	St. Catharines, Ont.	May 7, 1956	St. Catharines Jrs.	41	38	79
Drouin, Jude	5.09	165	Mont-Louis, Que.	October 28, 1948	N.Y. Islanders	21	41	62
Gillies, Clark	6.03	215	Moose Jaw, Sask.	April 7, 1954	N.Y. Islanders	34	27	61
Green, Geoff	5.09	170	Winnipeg, Man.	March 4, 1955	Erie	23	27	50
Hansen, Richie	5.10	175	Bronx, N.Y.	October 30, 1955	Erie	40	41	81
Harris, Billy	6.02	195	Toronto, Ont.	January 29, 1952	N.Y. Islanders	33	38	70
Hawryliw, Neil	5.10	185	Fielding, Sask.	November 19, 1955	Saskatoon Jrs.	48	39	87
Henning, Lorne	5.11	185	Estevan, Sask.	February 23, 1952	N.Y. Islanders	7	10	17
Howatt, Garry	6.09	170	Grand Centre, Alta.	September 26, 1952	N.Y. Islanders	21	13	34
Kaszycki, Mike	5.09	190	Milton, Ont.	February 27, 1956	Sault Ste. Marie Jrs.	51	119	170
Kennedy, Ron	5.11	180	North Battleford, Sask.	May 7, 1953	Ft. Worth-Muskegon	22	35	57
Ledingham, Walt	5.11	180	Weyburn, Sask.	October 26, 1950	Ft. Worth	13	19	32
MacMillan, Bill	5.10	185	Charlottetown, P.E.I.	March 7, 1943	N.Y. Islanders	9	7	16
McGuigan, Garth	6.00	191	Charlottetown, P.E.I.	February 16, 1956	Montreal Jrs.	47	46	93
McKendry, Alex	6.04	200	Midland, Ont.	November 21, 1956	Sudbury Jrs.	43	59	102
McLean, Dennis	6.02	195	Victoria, B.C.	July 30, 1955	Tidewater-Richmond	20	22	42
Nystrom, Bob	6.01	195	Stockholm, Sweden	October 10, 1952	N.Y. Islanders	21	25	48
Parise, J.P.	5.09	175	Smooth Rock Falls, Ont.	December 11, 1941	N.Y. Islanders	22	35	57
Prysuka, Sid	5.10	185	St. Paul, Minn.	January 7, 1954	Muskegon-Erie	21	20	41
Salvian, Dave	5.10	170	Toronto, Ont.	September 9, 1955	Ft. Worth	38	21	59
Stewart, Ralph	6.02	190	Thunder Bay, Ont.	February 12, 1948	N.Y. Islanders-Ft. Worth	9	12	20
St. Laurent, Andre	5.10	175	Rouyn-Noranda, Que.	February 16, 1953	N.Y. Islanders-Ft. Worth	10	19	29
Trottier, Bryan	5.10	185	Val Marie, Sask.	July 17, 1956	N.Y. Islanders	32	63	95
Vautaur, Yvon	6.00	200	St. John, N.B.	September 10, 1956	Laval Jrs.	43	60	103
Westfall, Ed	6.01	197	Belleville, Ont.	September 19, 1940	N.Y. Islanders	25	31	56
DEFENSEMEN								
Fortier, Dave	5.11	190	Sudbury, Ont.	June 17, 1951	N.Y. Islanders	0	2	2
Girardin, Joey	5.10	180	Winnipeg, Man.	April 7, 1955	Erie-Ft. Worth	0	15	15
Hart, Gerry	5.09	190	Flin Flon, Man.	January 1, 1948	N.Y. Islanders	6	18	24
Hordy, Mike	5.10	180	Thunderbay, Ont.	October 10, 1956	Sault Ste. Marie Jrs.	17	51	68
Langevin, Dave	6.02	200	St. Paul, Minn.	May 15, 1954	Minnesota Univ.-Duluth	19	26	45
Lewis, Dave	6.02	205	Kindersley, Sask.	July 3, 1953	N.Y. Islanders	0	19	19
Lorimer, Bob	6.00	190	Toronto, Ont.	August 25, 1953	Muskegon-Ft. Worth	6	21	27
Marshall, Bert	6.03	205	Kamloops, B.C.	November 22, 1943	N.Y. Islanders	0	16	16
Nicholson, Neil	5.11	180	St. John, N.B.	April 27, 1950	Ft. Worth	16	39	55
Potvin, Denis	6.00	204	Hull, Que.	October 29, 1953	N.Y. Islanders	31	67	98
Potvin, Jean	5.11	188	Ottawa, Ont.	March 25, 1949	N.Y. Islanders	17	55	72
Price, Pat	6.02	200	Nelson, B.C.	March 24, 1955	Ft. Worth-N.Y. Islanders	6	46	52
Sunderland, Bob	6.02	195	Braintree, Mass.	March 27, 1955	Boston Univ.	0	17	17
Torresan, Carlo	6.01	209	Port Alfred, Que.	June 19, 1954	Muskegon	12	16	28
GOALTENDERS								
Cutts, Don	5.03	190	Edmonton, Alta.	February 24, 1953	Muskegon	3356	158	5
Hughes, Bill	6.01	185	Kirkland Lake, Ont.	November 7, 1947	Ft. Worth	3975	170	3
LePage, Andre	5.11	177	Arvida, Que.	April 11, 1955	Erie	1192	93	0
Resch, Glenn	5.09	165	Moose Jaw, Sask.	July 10, 1948	N.Y. Islanders	2546	88	7
Smith, Bill	5.10	185	Perth, Ont.	December 12, 1950	N.Y. Islanders	2254	98	3

1975-76 N.H.L. Playoff Statistics

PLAYOFF STATS ARE ON PAGES 61 AND 65

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Hilliard Graves.....	2	0	0	0	0
Guy Chouinard.....	2	0	0	0	0
Dave Kryskow.....	2	0	0	0	2
Richard Lemieux.....	2	0	0	0	0
Ken Houston.....	2	0	0	0	0
Larry Romanchych.....	2	0	0	0	0
Curt Bennett.....	2	0	0	0	4
Bill Flett.....	2	0	0	0	0
Larry Carriere.....	2	0	0	0	2
Randy Manery.....	2	0	0	0	0
Ed Kea.....	2	0	0	0	7

BOSTON

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Jean Ratelle.....	12	8	8	16	4
Gregg Sheppard.....	12	5	6	11	6
Brad Park.....	11	3	8	11	14
Ken Hodge.....	12	4	6	10	4
Bobby Schmutz.....	11	2	8	10	13
John Bucyk.....	12	2	7	9	0
Don Marcotte.....	12	4	2	6	8
Wayne Cashman.....	11	1	5	6	16
Andre Savard.....	12	1	4	5	9
Terry O'Reilly.....	12	3	1	4	25
Dallas Smith.....	11	2	2	4	19
Darryl Edestrand.....	12	1	3	4	23
Dave Forbes.....	12	1	1	2	5
Gary Doak.....	12	1	0	1	22
Joe Zanuski.....	4	0	1	1	2
Al Sims.....	1	0	0	0	0
Doug Halward.....	1	0	0	0	0
Gord Clark.....	1	0	0	0	0
Ray Maluta.....	2	0	0	0	0
Steve Langdon.....	4	0	0	0	0
Gilles Gilbert.....	6	0	0	0	2
Hank Nowak.....	10	0	0	0	8
Mike Milbury.....	11	0	0	0	29

BUFFALO

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Rick Martin.....	9	4	7	11	12
Gil Perreault.....	9	4	4	8	4
Danny Gare.....	9	5	2	7	21
Don Luce.....	9	4	3	7	6
Rene Robert.....	9	3	2	5	6
Josh Guevremont.....	9	0	5	5	2
Jerry Korab.....	9	1	3	4	12
Lee Fogolin.....	9	0	4	4	23
Jim Lorentz.....	9	1	2	3	6
Craig Ramsay.....	9	1	2	3	2
Jim Schoenfeld.....	8	0	3	3	33
Jacques Richard.....	9	1	1	2	7
Brian Spencer.....	9	1	0	1	4
Bill Hajt.....	9	0	1	1	15
Fred Stanfield.....	9	0	1	1	0
Paul McIntosh.....	1	0	0	0	7
Ken Breitenbach.....	1	0	0	0	0
Gary McAdam.....	1	0	0	0	0
Derek Smith.....	1	0	0	0	0
Peter McNab.....	8	0	0	0	0
Gerry Desjardins.....	9	0	0	0	2

CHICAGO

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Dick Redmond.....	4	0	2	2	4
Pit Martin.....	4	1	0	1	4
Darcy Rota.....	4	1	0	1	2
Cliff Korall.....	4	1	0	1	0
Bill White.....	4	0	1	1	2
Phil Russell.....	4	0	1	1	17
Dale Tallon.....	4	0	1	1	8
Ivan Boldirev.....	4	0	1	1	0
Keith Magnuson.....	4	0	0	0	12
Chico Maki.....	4	0	0	0	0
Dennis Hull.....	4	0	0	0	0
John Marks.....	4	0	0	0	10
Alain Daigle.....	4	0	0	0	0
Stan Mikita.....	4	0	0	0	4
Grant Mulvey.....	4	0	0	0	2
JP Bordeleau.....	4	0	0	0	0
Bobby Sheehan.....	4	0	0	0	0

LOS ANGELES

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Marcel Dionne.....	9	6	1	7	0
Butch Goring.....	9	2	3	5	4
Mike Murphy.....	9	1	4	5	6
Bob Murdoch.....	9	0	5	5	15
Mike Corrigan.....	9	2	2	4	12

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Tom Williams.....	9	2	2	4	2
Bob Nevin.....	9	2	1	3	4
Dave Hutchison.....	9	0	3	3	29
Bob Berry.....	9	1	1	2	0
Don Kozak.....	9	1	0	1	12
Vic Venasky.....	9	0	1	1	6
Bert Wilson.....	8	0	0	0	24
Larry Brown.....	9	0	0	0	2
S Kannegiesser.....	9	0	0	0	4
Neil Komadoski.....	9	0	0	0	18
Ab Demarco.....	9	0	0	0	11
Frank St-Marseille.....	9	0	0	0	0

MONTREAL

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Guy Lafleur.....	13	7	10	17	2
Steve Shutt.....	13	7	8	15	2
Pete Mahovlich.....	13	4	8	12	24
Serge Savard.....	13	3	6	9	6
Yvan Cournoyer.....	13	3	6	9	4
Guy Lapointe.....	13	3	3	6	12
Larry Robinson.....	13	3	3	6	10
Jacques Lemaire.....	13	3	3	6	2
Yvon Lambert.....	12	2	3	5	18
Jim Roberts.....	13	3	1	4	2
Bob Gainey.....	13	1	3	4	20
Doug Jarvis.....	13	2	1	3	2
Doug Risebrough.....	13	0	3	3	30
Bill Nyrop.....	13	0	3	3	12
Pierre Bouchard.....	13	2	0	2	8
Murray Wilson.....	12	1	1	2	6
Mario Tremblay.....	12	0	1	1	27
Rick Chartraw.....	2	0	0	0	0
Ken Dryden.....	13	0	0	0	0

ISLANDERS

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Denis Potvin.....	13	5	14	19	32
Jude Drouin.....	13	6	9	15	0
Garry Howatt.....	13	5	5	10	23
JP Parise.....	13	4	6	10	10
Bob Nystrom.....	13	3	6	9	30
Bryan Trottier.....	13	1	7	8	8
Billy Harris.....	13	5	2	7	10
Billy MacMillan.....	13	4	2	6	8
Clark Gillies.....	13	2	4	6	16
Andre St-Laurent.....	13	1	5	6	15
Ed Westfall.....	8	2	3	5	0
Gerry Hart.....	13	1	3	4	24
Bert Marshall.....	13	1	3	4	12
Lorne Henning.....	13	2	0	2	2
Ralph Stewart.....	6	1	1	2	0
Jean Potvin.....	13	0	1	1	2
Dave Lewis.....	13	0	1	1	44
Dave Fortier.....	6	0	0	0	0
Billy Smith.....	8	0	0	0	11

PHILADELPHIA

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Reggie Leach.....	16	19	5	24	8
Bobby Clarke.....	16	2	14	16	28
Mel Bridgman.....	16	6	8	14	31
Larry Goodenough.....	16	3	11	14	6
Bill Barber.....	16	6	7	13	18
Don Saleski.....	16	6	5	11	47
Orest Kindrachuk.....	16	4	7	11	4
Jimmy Watson.....	16	1	8	9	6
Tom Bladen.....	16	2	6	8	14
Ross Lonsberry.....	16	4	3	7	2
Gary Doerflinger.....	16	3	4	7	43
Terry Crisp.....	10	0	5	5	2
Andre Dupont.....	15	2	2	4	46
Dave Schultz.....	16	2	2	4	90
Jack McIlhargey.....	15	0	3	3	41
Joe Watson.....	16	1	1	2	10
Bob Kelly.....	16	0	2	2	44
Terry Murray.....	6	0	1	1	0

PITTSBURGH

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Stan Gilbertson.....	3	1	1	2	2
Vic Hadfield.....	3	1	0	1	11
Lowell MacDonald.....	3	1	0	1	0
Barry Wilkins.....	3	0	1	1	4
Pierre Larouche.....	3	0	1	1	0
Ed Van Impe.....	3	0	1	1	2
Syl Apps.....	3	0	1	1	0
Ron Schock.....	3	0	1	1	0
Dennis Owchar.....	2	0	0	0	2
Rick Kehoe.....	3	0	0	0	0

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Jean Pronovost.....	3	0	0	0	2
Bob Kelly.....	3	0	0	0	2
Ron Stackhouse.....	3	0	0	0	0
Lew Morrison.....	3	0	0	0	0
Dave Burrows.....	3	0	0	0	0
Colin Campbell.....	3	0	0	0	0
Simon Nolet.....	3	0	0	0	0

ST. LOUIS

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Chuck Leffley.....	2	2	1	3	0
Garry Unger.....	3	2	1	3	7
Red Berenson.....	3	1	2	3	0
Larry Patey.....	3	1	1	2	2
Ted Irvine.....	3	0	2	2	2
Derek Sanderson.....	3	1	0	1	0
Dave Hrechak.....	3	1	0	1	2
Bob Hess.....	1	0	1	1	0
Bob MacMillan.....	3	0	1	1	0
Rick Smith.....	3	0	1	1	4
Barclay Plager.....	1	0	0	0	13
Rick Wilson.....	1	0	0	0	10
Jamie Masters.....	1	0	0	0	0
Jerry Butler.....	3	0	0	0	0
Bob Gassoff.....	3	0	0	0	6
Bruce Affleck.....	3	0	0	0	0
Bob Plager.....	3	0	0	0	2
Claude Larose.....	3	0	0	0	0
Pierre Plante.....	3	0	0	0	6

TORONTO

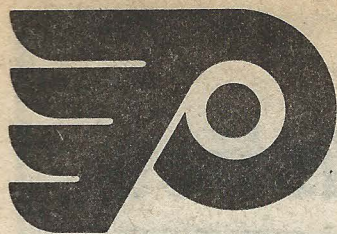
	GP	G	A	P	PM
Darryl Sittler.....	10	5	7	12	19
Ian Turnbull.....	10	2	9	11	29
Lanny McDonald.....	10	4	4	8	4
Borje Salming.....	10	3	4	7	9
Erral Thompson.....	10	3	3	6	0
Claire Alexander.....	9	2	4	6	4
George Ferguson.....	10	2	4	6	2
Jim McKenny.....	6	2	3	5	2
Jack Valiquette.....	10	2	3	5	2
Pat Boutette.....	10	1	4	5	16
Bob Neely.....	10	3	1	4	7
Stan Weir.....	9	1	3	4	0
Scott Garland.....	7	1	2	3	35
Brian Glennie.....	6	0	1	1	15
Rod Seiling.....	10	0	1	1	6
Bob Warner.....	2	0	0	0	0
Dave Dunn.....	3	0	0	0	17
Kurt Walker.....	6	0	0	0	24
Dave Williams.....	10	0	0	0	75

VANCOUVER

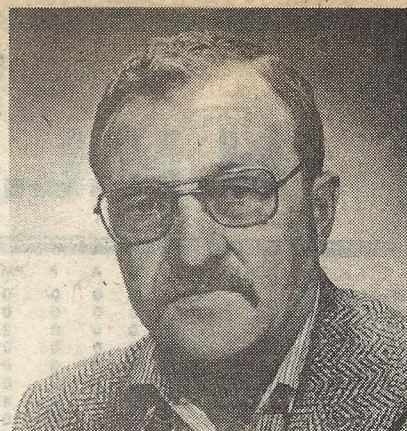
	GP	G	A	P	PM
Chris Oddleifson.....	2	1	2	3	0
Bob Dailey.....	2	1	1	2	0
Dennis Ververgaert.....	2	1	0	1	4
John Gould.....	2	1	0	1	0
Dennis Kearns.....	2	0	1	1	0
Rick Blight.....	2	0	1	1	0
Bob Murray.....	1	0	0	0	0
Andre Boudrias.....	1	0	0	0	0
Bobby Lalonde.....	1	0	0	0	2
Mike Robitaille.....	2	0	0	0	2
Tracy Pratt.....	2	0	0	0	0
John Grisdale.....	2	0	0	0	0
Harold Snepsts.....	2	0	0	0	4
Mike Walton.....	2	0	0	0	5
Don Lever.....	2	0	0	0	0
Ron Sedlbauer.....	2	0	0	0	0
Gerry O'Flaherty.....	2	0	0	0	0
Garry Monahan.....	2	0	0	0	2

PLAYOFF GOALING

	GPI	MIN	GA	SO	AVG
Dan Bouchard, Atl.....	2	120	3	0	1.50
Ken Dryden, Mtl.....	13	780	25	1	1.92
Ed Staniowski, St. L.....	3	206	7	0	2.04
Gerry Cheevers, Bos.....	6	392	14	1	2.14
Gilles Gilbert, Bos.....	6	360	19	2	3.17
Michel Plasse, Pitt.....	3	180	8	1	2.67
Regie Vachon, L.A.....	7	438	17	1	2.33
Gary Edwards, L.A.....	2	120	9	0	4.50
Billy Smith, Isl.....	8	437	21	0	2.88
Glenn Resch, Isl.....	7	357	19	0	3.03
Gerry Desjardins, Buff.....	9	563	28	0	2.98
Al Smith, Buff.....	1	17	1	0	3.53
Wayne Stephenson, Phil.....	8	494	22	0	2.67
Bernie Parent, Phil.....	8	480	27	0	3.38
Tony Esposito, Chi.....	4	240	13	0	3.25
Wayne Thomas, Tor.....	10	587	34	1	3.48
Gord McRae, Tor.....	1	13	1	0	4.62
Curt Ridley, Van.....	2	120	8	0	4.00



PHILADELPHIA FLYERS



FRED SHERO

Philadelphia Flyers

Team physician could be club MVP

The Flyers took their four straight defeats at the hands of the Montreal Canadiens in the Stanley Cup finals with good spirit, but underneath they were upset. Their belief that their system was the one which would always prevail was severely shaken. After two straight Stanley Cups and a Divisional crown, Philadelphia opens the 1976-77 season with numerous question marks.

Can Bernie Parent bounce back in goal, or is he through as a top notch stopper, a goalie who never lets a losing streak get past two games? Parent's unavailability for the Canada Cup games indicates less than a willingness to work.

If Parent doesn't make it, can Wayne Stephenson do the job again? He handled it perfectly in the regular season and did well in the playoffs, but the Flyers of 1974 and 1975 won because Parent was super. And where does Gary Inness fit into the picture? Are the skids being greased for Stephenson?

Freddie Shero is still the Guru of the coaching fraternity, but Scotty Bowman did outmuscle the worn down Flyers in the Finals. Will Bobby Clarke come back from his knee problem of the 1976 playoffs? A subpar Clarke would be a disaster in Philadelphia. The Clarke, Butch

Barber, Reggie Leach shootout starts with the captain.

Leach's 61 goals, Barber's 112 points and Clarke's 119 points and Hart Trophy as the NHL MVP were earned honors. They will be repeated via the work ethic made famous by the Flyers, but Bobby's knee must come around.

The injury to Rick MacLeish cost the Flyers more than did Parent's problems. Mel Bridgman did a good job in the regular season, but MacLeish had led playoff scorers two seasons in a row—and Bridgman wasn't up to that. MacLeish also is having problems skating—and may not come all the way back by October. This would mean the Clarke-Barber-Leach line would be broken up with Barber becoming a center.

Orest Kindrachuk became hockey's Big O, with a great season and proved his point that he was an NHL star. Kindrachuk got 26 goals and 49 assists. With Don Saleski he was the most improved Flyer.

Ross Lonsberry and Gary Dornhoefer are veteran parts who may be wearing out.

The Flyers built their team with draft picks, including Clarke and Bridgman. So don't underrate Mark Suzor, a Kingston defenseman. Still Suzor may not be the succor needed

to replace Ed Van Impe, who was traded to Pittsburgh in March.

Clearly tough guy Jack McIlhargy was being worked on by the Canadiens and Bruins in the playoffs—and was on the ice too often when the other guys scored. In retrospect Van Impe was missed, although the chance to get the youthful Inness to put the heat on Parent, was too much for general manager Keith Allen to turn down.

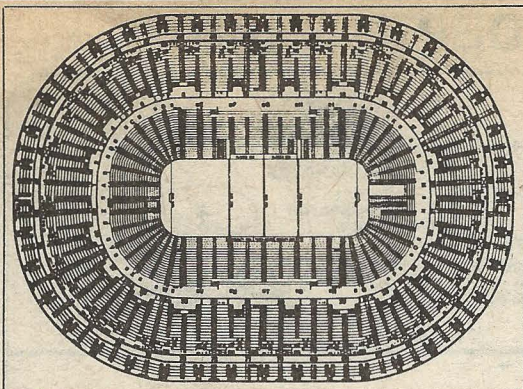
The rest of the Flyers' defense is still the same. Slow Joe Watson, quicker, but injury prone Jimmy Watson, underrated Andre Dupont who gets the clutch goal and point men Larry Goodenough and Tom Bladon. Are they goodenough? Yes, and no. They will do fine in the Patrick Division, but they don't rate with the Canadiens super guys.

The final worry for Shero is how much will the change in the rules on violence affect Philadelphia's arch proponents of intimidation, the Flyers. Is Dave Schultz out of business? Probably not, as he uses his fists and not his stick, but he is only fringe in ability.

In all, the Flyers are tough, resourceful and could win the Patrick Division and the Stanley Cup once more. But they won't, relinquishing first to the up and coming Islanders in a tough struggle.

PAST RECORD

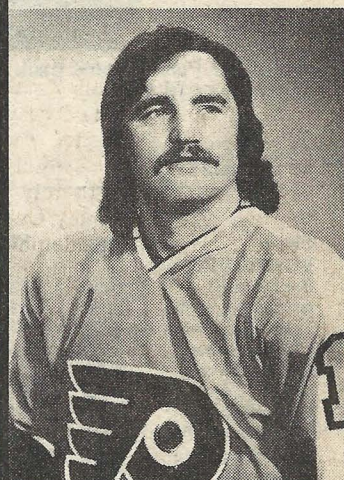
Year	W	L	T	Pts.	%	GF	GA	Plus or Minus	GF/ Game	GA/ Game	Year	Shts./ Game	Shtg. %	Power Play	Pen. Killed	Pen. Min./ Game	Finish	Playoff Result
67-68	31	32	11	73(6)	.493	173(11)	179(3)	[6] (5)	2.34	2.42	67-68	25.4(11)	9.2(5)	12.3(12)	83.1(6)	13.3(2)	1W	L-QF
68-69	20	35	21	61(9)	.401	174(12)	225(7)	[51] (9)	2.29	2.96	68-69	28.7(11)	7.9(11)	15.2(10)	84.6(2)	12.7(2)	3W	L-QF
69-70	17	35	24	58(10)	.382	197(9)	225(7)	[28] (8)	2.59	2.96	69-70	31.8(7)	8.1(9)	15.5(10)	81.4(5)	14.8(2)	5W	—
70-71	28	33	17	73(7)	.468	207(12)	225(8)	[18] (7)	2.65	2.88	70-71	31.1(8)	8.5(12)	15.4(11)	83.6(6)	13.5(9)	3W	L-QF
71-72	26	38	14	66(9)	.426	200(14)	236(7)	[36] (8)	2.56	3.03	71-72	30.3(6)	8.4(12)	19.4(6)	83.6(3)	15.8(1)	5W	—
72-73	37	30	11	85(7)	.548	296(4)	256(1)	40 (5)	3.79	3.28	72-73	33.6(4)	11.2(4)	28.8(1)	81.1(10)	22.5(1)	2W	L-SF
73-74	50	16	12	112(2)	.718	273(5)	164(1)	109 (2)	3.50	2.10	73-74	33.9(3)	10.3(6)	22.3(3)	88.4(1)	22.4(1)	1W	Won
74-75	51	18	11	113(1)	.706	293(6)	181(1)	112 (3)	3.66	2.26	74-75	33.7(6)	10.9(10)	24.9(5)	84.1(3)	24.6(1)	1P	Won
75-76	51	13	16	118(2)	.738	348(1)	209(3)	139 (2)	4.35	2.61	75-76	37.4(1)	11.7(5)	28.6(2)	82.7(6)	24.8(1)	1P	L-F



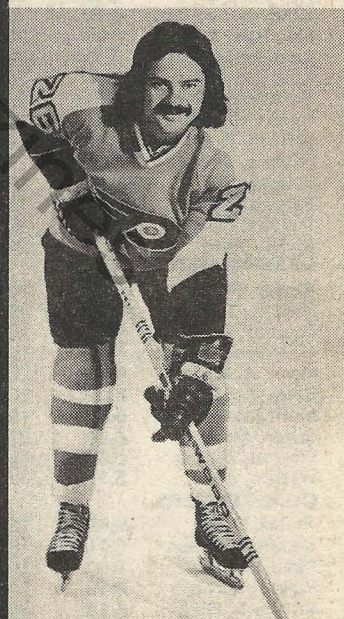
THE SPECTRUM



Bill Barber



Rick MacLeish



Orest Kindrachuk

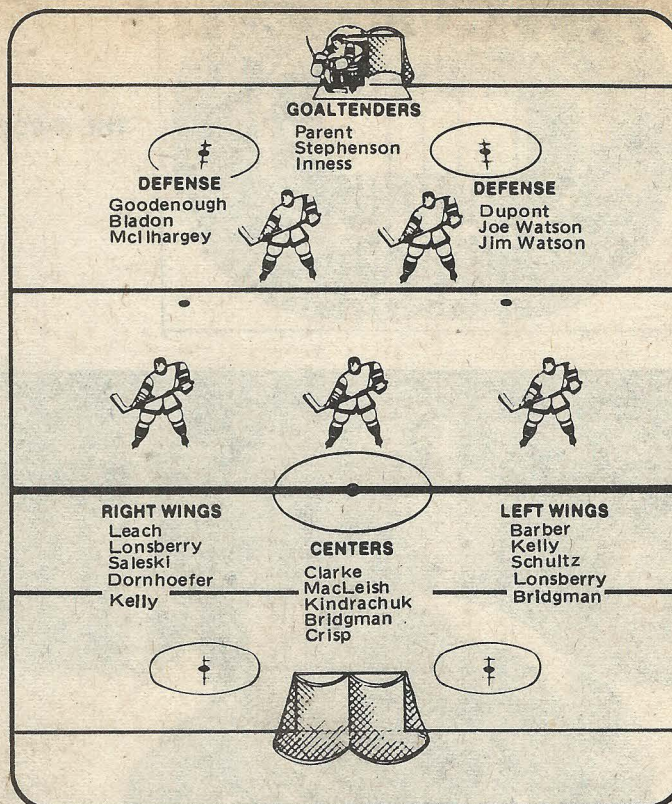


Bobby Clarke has won the Hart Trophy two years in a row.



Can Bernie Parent come back from his injury-plagued season of 1975-76?

DEPTH CHART



ROSTER

1976-77 PHILADELPHIA FLYERS						1975-76 Record		
Player	Hgt.	Wgt	Place of Birth	Date of Birth	1975-76 Club	G	A	Pts
FORWARDS								
Barber, Bill	6.00	190	Callender, Ont.	July 11, 1952	Philadelphia	50	62	112
Bridgman, Mel	6.00	185	Trenton, B.C.	April 28, 1955	Philadelphia	23	27	50
Callander, Drew	6.02	188	Regina, Sask.		Regina Jrs.	49	56	105
Clarke, Bobby	5.10	185	Flin Flon, Man.	August 13, 1948	Philadelphia	30	89	119
Clarke, Mike	5.11	173	Didsbury, Alta.	August 12, 1953	Springfield-Flint	39	37	76
Coates, Steve	5.09	172	Toronto, Ont.	July 27, 1950	Richmond	25	19	44
Crisp, Terry	5.10	180	Parry Sound, Ont.	May 28, 1943	Philadelphia	6	9	15
Dornhoefer, Gary	6.01	190	Kitchener, Ont.	February 2, 1943	Philadelphia	38	35	63
Holmgren, Paul	6.03	215		December 2, 1955	Philadelphia-Richmond	4	4	8
Hynek, Dave	6.00	200			Kingston Jrs.	13	23	36
Kelly, Bob	5.10	190	Oakville, Ont.	November 25, 1950	Philadelphia	12	8	20
Kelly, Dave	6.02	205	Chatham, Ont.	September 20, 1952	Richmond	21	19	40
Kindrachuk, Orest	5.10	175	Nanton, Alta.	September 14, 1940	Philadelphia	26	49	75
Klasinski, Paul	6.01	200			St. Paul Jrs.	30	46	76
Lajeunesse, Serge	5.11	205	Montreal, Que.	June 11, 1950	Richmond	7	17	24
Leach, Reggie	6.00	185	Riverton, Man.	April 23, 1950	Philadelphia	61	30	91
Lonsberry, Ross	5.11	195	Humboldt, Sask.	February 7, 1947	Philadelphia	19	28	47
MacLeish, Rick	5.11	185	Cannington, Ont.	January 3, 1950	Philadelphia	22	23	45
Osburn, Randy	6.00	190	Collingwood, Ont.	November 26, 1942	Philadelphia (NAHL)	29	39	68
Ritchie, Bob	5.10	170	Laverlochere, Que	February 20, 1955	Richmond	12	10	22
Saleski, Don	6.02	205	Moose Jaw, Sask.	November 10, 1949	Philadelphia	21	26	47
Schaab, Wayne	5.10	170	Penticton, B.C.	December 3, 1948	Richmond	36	36	72
Schultz, Dave	6.01	190	Waldheim, Sask.	October 14, 1945	Philadelphia	12	19	32
Short, Steve	6.02	210	Roseville, Minn.	April 6, 1954	Richmond	5	14	19
DEFENSEMEN								
Barnes, Norm	6.00	190	Toronto, Ont.	August 24, 1953	Richmond	2	7	9
Bladon, Tom	6.01	195	Edmonton, Alta.	December 29, 1952	Philadelphia	14	23	37
Dupont, Andre	6.00	202	Trois-Rivieres, Que.	July 27, 1949	Philadelphia	9	27	36
Goodenough, Larry	6.00	195	Toronto, Ont.	January 19, 1953	Philadelphia	8	34	42
Hammer, Craig	6.02	205			Mohawk Valley (NAHL)	0	2	2
Lang, Robin	6.02	200			Cornell University	2	10	12
McIlhargey, Jack	6.00	190	Edmonton, Alta.	March 7, 1952	Philadelphia-Richmond	1	2	3
Suzor, Mark	6.01	212	Windsor, Ont.		Kingston Jrs.	16	20	46
Watson, Jimmy	6.00	190	Smithers, B.C.	August 19, 1952	Philadelphia	2	34	36
Watson, Joe	5.10	185	Smithers, B.C.	July 6, 1943	Philadelphia	2	22	24
GOALTENDERS						Mins.	GA	SO
Inness, Gary	6.00	195	Toronto, Ont.	May 28, 1949	Philadelphia-Hershey-Pitt.	1451	94	0
Lemelin, Rejean	5.11	160	Sherbrooke, Que.	November 19, 1954	Philadelphia-(NAHL)-Rich.	2003	127	1
Mrazek, Gerry	5.09	160	Prince Albert, Sask.	October 15, 1951	Philadelphia-Richmond	1141	73	2
Parent, Bernie	5.10	180	Montreal, Que.	April 3, 1945	Philadelphia	615	24	0
St. Croix, Rick	5.10	160	Kenora, Ont.	January 3, 1955				
Stephenson, Wayne	5.09	175	Fort William, Ont.	January 29, 1945	Philadelphia	3819	164	1

NHL's Plus-Minus Figures For 1975-76

NHL PLUS-MINUS FIGURES ARE ON PAGES 69, 73, 77.

ATLANTA

	TGF	PGF	NET	TGA	PGA	OVER
						NET ALL
TOM LYSIAK.....	108	44	64	74	12	62 +2
CURT BENNETT.....	91	27	64	74	11	63 +1
HILLIARD GRAVES.....	83	25	58	58	3	55 +3
CLAUDE ST. SAUVEUR.....	67	32	35	41	0	41 -6
ERIC VAIL.....	75	21	54	49	2	47 +7
BILL FLETT.....	63	3	60	69	18	51 +9
DAVE KRYSKOW.....	57	6	51	60	3	57 -6
REY COMEAU.....	46	3	43	39	5	34 +9
RANDY MANERY.....	95	27	68	71	5	66 +2
LARRY ROMANCHYCH.....	57	20	37	44	0	44 -7
BARRY GIBBS.....	101	14	87	110	24	86 +1
BILL CLEMENT.....	39	5	34	36	5	31 +3
ED KEA.....	93	8	85	83	19	64 +21
GERRY MEEHAN.....	37	9	28	30	1	29 -1
TIM ECCLESTONE.....	53	7	46	57	18	39 +7
LARRY CARRIERE.....	77	2	75	95	25	70 +5
JEAN LEMIEUX.....	36	15	21	17	0	17 +4
PAT QUINN.....	70	1	69	77	13	64 +5
KEN HOUSTON.....	18	1	17	20	0	20 -3
BOB LEITER.....	12	4	8	8	0	8 +0
GUY CHOINARD.....	4	1	3	1	0	1 +2
RICHARD MULHORN.....	3	0	3	1	0	1 -8
RICHARD LEMIEUX.....	2	0	2	0	0	0 +2
CAM BOTTING.....	1	0	1	0	0	0 +0
PHIL MYRE.....	0	0	0	0	0	0 +0
DAN BOUCHARD.....	0	0	0	1	1	0 +0
BUSTER HARVEY.....	0	0	0	2	2	0 +0
PAT ROBBLE.....	2	0	2	1	0	1 +0
BILL PLETT.....	1	0	1	1	0	1 +0
RICK BOWNESS.....	0	0	0	5	0	5 -5

BOSTON

	TGF	PGF	NET	TGA	PGA	OVER
						NET ALL
JEAN RATELLE.....	115	50	65	66	18	48 +17
JOHN BUCYK.....	129	56	73	51	0	51 +22
GREGG SHEPPARD.....	117	44	73	75	26	49 +24
WAYNE CASHMAN.....	111	22	89	61	2	59 +30
BOBBY SCHMAUTZ.....	105	44	61	62	14	48 +13
KEN HODGE.....	100	47	53	34	0	34 +19
BRAD PARK.....	119	43	76	66	13	53 +23
TERRY OREILLY.....	60	4	56	53	0	53 +3
ANDRE SAVARD.....	58	2	56	56	4	52 +4
DON MARCOTTE.....	58	6	52	49	12	37 +15
DALLAS SMITH.....	128	5	123	110	29	81 +42
DAVE FORBES.....	48	1	47	49	17	32 +15
DOUG GIBSON.....	30	5	25	18	1	17 +8
DARRYL EDESTRAND.....	85	9	76	79	10	69 +7
BOBBY ORR.....	32	13	19	11	2	9 +10
PHIL ESPOSITO.....	20	10	10	16	5	11 -1
HANK NOWAK.....	24	1	23	26	2	24 -1
JOE ZANUSSI.....	32	2	30	38	10	28 +2
AL SIMS.....	41	5	36	47	17	30 +6
CAROL VADNAIS.....	23	8	15	23	9	14 +1
GARY DOAK.....	71	1	70	58	13	45 +25
DOUG HALWARD.....	21	4	17	25	4	21 -4
BARRY SMITH.....	2	0	2	10	3	7 -5
KENT RUHNKE.....	1	0	1	0	0	0 +1
EARL ANDERSON.....	1	1	0	5	3	2 -2
AL SIMMONS.....	6	0	6	9	3	6 +0
GORD CLARK.....	2	0	2	7	0	7 -5
RICK ADDUONO.....	0	0	0	1	0	1 -1
PAUL O'NEIL.....	0	0	0	0	1	1 -1
STAN JONATHAN.....	0	0	0	0	0	0 +0
RAY MALUTA.....	1	0	1	4	0	4 -3
MIKE MILBURY.....	2	0	2	2	1	1 +1
STEVE LANGDON.....	0	0	0	1	0	1 -1

BUFFALO

	TGF	PGF	NET	TGA	PGA	OVER
						NET ALL
GILBERT PERREAULT.....	142	57	85	68	0	68 +17
KEN ROBERT.....	135	59	76	59	0	59 +17
RICK MARTIN.....	147	56	91	68	0	68 +23
DANNY GARE.....	113	29	84	61	9	52 +32
CRAIG RAMSAY.....	100	9	91	76	29	47 +44
DON LUCE.....	95	8	87	85	35	50 +37
PETER MCNAB.....	69	8	61	43	0	43 +48
JOSH GUYEREMONT.....	173	41	132	105	20	85 +47
FRED STANFIELD.....	78	28	50	60	15	43 +5
JIM LORENTZ.....	63	14	49	54	8	46 +3
JERRY KORAB.....	122	29	93	100	25	75 +18
BRIAN SPENCER.....	57	1	56	42	0	42 +14
JACQUES RICHARD.....	62	11	51	47	0	47 +4
BILL HAJT.....	132	6	126	115	28	87 +39
JIM SCHENFELD.....	103	3	100	82	22	60 +40
LEE FOGLIN.....	62	1	61	52	6	46 +15
GARY MACDAM.....	0	0	0	3	1	3 +0
ROGER CROZIER.....	0	0	0	0	0	0 +0
PAUL MCINTOSH.....	13	0	13	19	1	18 -19
GERRY DESJARDINS.....	0	0	0	0	0	0 +0
TERRY MARTIN.....	0	0	0	0	0	0 +0
MORRIS TITANE.....	1	0	1	0	0	0 +1
KEN BREITENBACH.....	5	1	4	0	0	0 +4

CALIFORNIA

	TGF	PGF	NET	TGA	PGA	OVER
						NET ALL
AL MACDAM.....	89	27	62	89	18	71 -9
DENNIS MARUK.....	88	26	62	93	25	68 -6
WAYNE MERRICK.....	66	25	41	44	0	44 -3
RICK HAMPTON.....	129	44	85	107	10	97 -12
ROBERT MURDOCH.....	75	26	49	63	1	62 -13
GARY SABOURIN.....	71	19	52	59	9	59 -7
DAVE GARDNER.....	74	33	41	45	0	45 -4
BOB GIRARD.....	70	18	52	74	19	55 -3
JIM MOXEY.....	42	10	32	50	8	42 -10
FRED AHERN.....	38	9	29	32	1	31 -2
RALPH KLASSEN.....	35	11	24	71	21	50 -26
BOB STEWART.....	71	13	58	122	30	92 -34
MIKE CHRISTIE.....	83	2	81	112	13	99 -18
JIM PAPPIN.....	30	15	15	31	0	31 -16
LEN FRIG.....	69	15	54	82	23	59 -5
DAVE HRECHKOZY.....	26	10	16	31	0	31 -15
GEORGE PESUT.....	31	14	17	29	4	25 -8
WAYNE KING.....	19	5	14	17	0	17 -3
GARY HOLT.....	18	4	14	24	0	24 -10
TIM JACOBS.....	53	11	42	61	17	44 -2
LARRY PATEY.....	11	4	7	15	0	15 -8
JIM NEILSON.....	29	7	22	36	8	28 -6
BUTCH WILLIAMS.....	7	2	5	12	0	12 -7
CHARLIE SIMMER.....	4	2	2	15	4	11 -9
FRANK SPRING.....	2	1	1	0	0	0 +1
GREG SMITH.....	1	1	0	1	0	1 -1
GILLES MELOCHE.....	0	0	0	0	0	0 +0
BRENT MEEKER.....	0	0	0	0	0	0 +0
TOM PRICE.....	1	0	1	10	0	10 -9

CHICAGO

	TGF	PGF	NET	TGA	PGA	OVER
						NET ALL
PIT MARTIN.....	109	43	66	95	35	60 +6
DENNIS HULL.....	87	21	66	108	25	83 -17
IVAN BOLDIREV.....	76	18	58	82	1	81 -23
DALE TALLON.....	141	49	92	130	27	103 -11
CLIFF KOROLL.....	94	37	57	66	15	51 +6
STAN MIKITA.....	72	37	35	47	8	30 -4
JOHN MARKS.....	79	29	50	68	14	54 -4
PHIL RUSSELL.....	102	26	76	119	23	96 -20
DARCY ROTA.....	71	16	55	63	0	63 -8
DOCK REDMOND.....	78	26	52	60	9	51 +1
BOBBY SHEEHAN.....	39	7	32	36	0	36 -4
J.P. BORDELEAU.....	48	12	36	46	1	45 -9
GRANT MULVEY.....	48	4	44	50	1	49 -5
ALAIN DAIGLE.....	38	15	23	41	0	41 -18
BILL WHITE.....	64	5	59	97	28	69 -10
KEITH MAGNUSON.....	49	0	49	52	16	36 +13
CHICO MAKI.....	11	6	5	15	1	14 -9
JOEY JOHNSTON.....	9	4	5	11	1	10 -5
ROBERT MURRAY.....	34	2	32	41	3	38 -6
ROD PALMER.....	1	0	1	0	0	0 +1
TONY ESPOSITO.....	0	0	0	0	0	0 +0
DAVE LOGAN.....	0	0	0	1	0	1 -1
GERMAIN GAGNON.....	1	1	0	1	0	1 -1
RANDY HOLT.....	2	0	2	15	1	16 -12

DETROIT

	TGF	PGF	NET	TGA	PGA	OVER
						NET ALL
WALT MCKECHNIE.....	110	30	80	112	41	71 +9
DAN MALONEY.....	94	28	66	84	18	66 +0
MICHEL BERGERON.....	73	24	49	47	0	47 +2
NICK LIBETT.....	72	16	56	85	20	65 -9
BILL HOGABOAM.....	53	15	38	45	8	46 -8
RICK LAPOINTE.....	98	16	82	121	36	85 -3
TERRY HARPER.....	102	26	76	112	42	70 +6
MIKE BLOOM.....	39	5	34	58	5	53 -19
MICKEY REDMOND.....	40	15	25	42	0	42 -17
DENNIS POLONICH.....	30	4	26	36	1	35 -9
DANNY GRANT.....	32	12	19	46	10	36 -17
BILL LOCHHEAD.....	28	6	22	37	0	37 -15
BRYAN WATSON.....	69	2	67	126	39	87 -20
BUSTER HARVEY.....	27	4	23	41	10	31 -8
DENNIS HEXTALL.....	25	7	18	24	8	16 +2
J.P. LEBLANC.....	23	2	21	39	13	26 -6
BARRY SALOVAARA.....	36	1	35	48	6	42 -7
JEAN HAMEL.....	64	4	60	103	30	73 -13
AL CAMERON.....	34	4	30	51	14	37 -7
MIKE KORNEY.....	12	3	9	17	0	17 -8
PHIL ROBERTO.....	19	2	17	25	6	19 -2
BRYAN HEXTALL.....	8	3	5	22	13	9 -4
LARRY GIROUX.....	7	1	6	21	5	16 -10
MIKE WONG.....	3	2	1	12	0	12 -11

KANSAS CITY

	TGF	PGF	NET	TGA	PGA	OVER
						NET ALL
GUY CHARRON.....	89	30	59	134	24	110 -51
WILF PAIEMENT.....	53	18	35	75	3	72 -37
GARY BERGMAN.....	85	27	58	143	33	110 -52
CRAIG PATRICK.....	63	10	53	109	32	77 -24
GARY CROTEAU.....	44	12	32	89	33	56 -24
ROBIN BURNS.....	39	10	29	69	0	69 -40
DAVE HUDSON.....	48	9	39	85	18	67 -28
RANDY ROTA.....	39	8	31	70	1	69 -38
SIMON NOLET.....	35	12	23	33	1	32 -9
CHUCK ARNASON.....	32	14	18	55	2	53 -35

PHIL ROBERTO.....	35	12	23	52	18	34 -11
DENNIS PATTERSON.....	60	7	53	98	17	81 -28
BUSTER HARVEY.....	26	4	22	54	1	53 -31
DENIS DUPRE.....	19	2	17	26	1	25 -8
JEAN-GUY LAGACE.....	65	12	53	125	34	91 -38
ED GILBERT.....	17	5	12	49	8	41 -29
LARRY HOHNSTON.....	64	8	56	150	33	117 -61
STEVE DURRANO.....	29	7	22	71	19	52 -30
HENRY BOUCHA.....	23	8	15	33	5	28 -13
GERMAIN GAGNON.....	17	5	12	28	2	26 -14
JIM MCMURRY.....	28	4	24	49	12	37 -13
HUGH HARVEY.....	3	1	2	7	0	7 -5
KEN MURRAY.....	9	0	9	16	6	10 -1
CLAUDE HOUE.....	8	0	8	28	7	21 -13
TERRY McDONALD.....	4	1	3	9	1	



FRED CREIGHTON

Atlanta Flames

Flames burn brighter

Making the playoffs was the holy grail in Dixie last year and coach Fred Creighton's men did just that, before being defended to death by the Los Angeles Kings, 2-1, and 1-0, in a quickie best of three.

Although the Flames don't compare with the Islanders, their expansion cousins of 1972-73, they have made steady progress, without the peaks and valleys usually suffered by expansion teams. Even the Philadelphia Flyers and Buffalo Sabres had droughts in the first four years of their history.

Year Five finds the Flames looking for more attack. Curt Bennett and Tom Lysiak carried the team last year with help from Eric Vail, after Vail recovered from early season shoulder problems. Bennett got 34 goals and 65 points, and when assigned to check Phil Esposito, quipped, "My stats are better than Phil's. He's guarding me."

Bennett also delivered the fistic coup-de-grace to the New York Rangers' Dave Maloney in the game which ended the Rangers bid to overtake Atlanta for the final playoff spot in the Patrick Division. He is a respected, tough American-raised young man who is providing the leadership a young team needs.

So, too, is Lysiak, who plays the point on the power play and was 31-51-82. Vail, coming off a 39 goal season in 1974-75, for which he was awarded the Calder Trophy as Rookie

of the Year, was hurt in camp and didn't play much until December. He got 16 goals and 47 points, but was coming in the late stages.

Bill Clement joined up in mid-season, after a tenure with Washington to whom the champion Flyers had banished him. Clement was an invaluable two way player, finishing third in the scoring list with 54 points. After that it was Hilliard Graves and Claude St. Sauveur who notched 48. The Saint, with a \$100,000 contract, was returned to Calgary of the WHA.

The Flames scored 262 goals, the exact number as the Rangers, whom they will once more fight for the final Patrick playoff spot. Atlanta allowed 237 goals, 96 less than the Rangers and therein lies the difference between the two teams. The Dixie dandies have the most unsung goaling tandem in the NHL. Many figure that Dan Bouchard and Phil Myre are better than Chico Resch and Billy Smith, given the right circumstances. The Resch-Smith duo was second in the goals against, the Atlantans fifth.

An offseason injury which saw rugged Pat Quinn break his leg in two places won't help the blueline crew, but most feel that Creighton will patch before a leak springs. Barry Gibbs and Randy Manery, the point men, are the best, with Ed Kea, a made hockey player, and Larry Carriere, a young man still learning his trade. Carriere more than justified the trade in which general manager Cliff Fletcher sent

prospective star Jacques Richard to Buffalo.

Atlanta cannot realistically challenge the Islanders or Philadelphia. They should retain their spot in the Patrick playoffs, but only if their defense remains stingy and the goals-for gets a bit better.

Creighton's men are tough on the road, 16-19-5, but not much better at home, 19-14-7, which is a mystery. Apparently Atlanta isn't the oasis that a city like Los Angeles is as far as lulling a visiting team into a short vacation.

Fletcher signed Dave Shand, a defenseman, who was his number one draft, after playing with Peterborough of the OHA. Shand has a chance to make the squad.

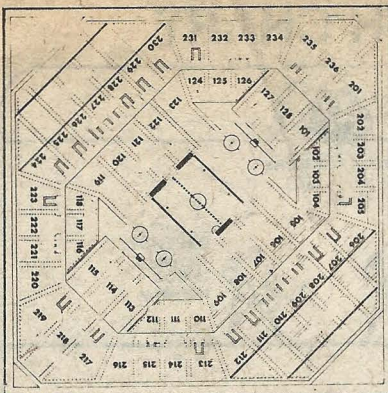
It is drafts that have given the Islanders their edge over Atlanta. Lysiak and Vail were good picks, but Richard went poorly in an alien non-French land. Even Vail was only a number two pick in 1973.

The Flames are about three good players away from the level of the Islanders. But those three players must be on the level of Bryan Trottier or Rick Martin, or perhaps Denis Potvin. This makes Fletcher's task onerous, as Atlanta finishes in the middle of the pack—and gets middle of the pack draft selections.

Atlanta is never easy, but they rate only as a good bet to make the playoffs, and a better one to get wiped out immediately.

PAST RECORD

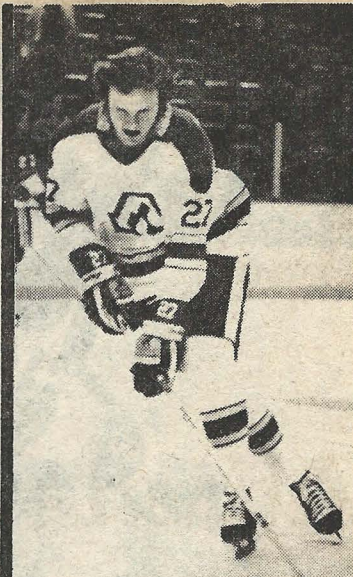
Year	W	L	T	Pts.	%	GF	GA	Plus or [Minus]	GF/ Game	GA/ Game	Year	Shts./ Game	Shtg. %	Power Play	Pen. Killed	Pen. Min./ Game	Finish	Playoff Result
72-73	25	38	15	65(12)	.417	191(15)	239(7)	[48](13)	2.45	3.06	72-73	27.0(14)	9.0(14)	14.3(15)	81.9(7)	10.9(12)	7W	—
73-74	30	34	14	74(9)	.474	214(13)	238(6)	[24](9)	2.74	3.05	73-74	30.5(8)	8.9(15)	16.7(12)	79.4(12)	10.7(11)	4W	L-QF
74-75	34	31	15	83(11)	.519	243(14)	233(5)	10 (11)	3.04	2.91	74-75	28.4(14)	10.7(13)	19.0(10)	79.2(12)	11.4(17)	4P	—
75-76	35	33	12	82(8)	.513	262(11)	237(4)	25 (7)	3.28	2.96	75-76	30.7(8)	10.7(14)	19.2(11)	84.5(3)	11.6(17)	3P	L-QF



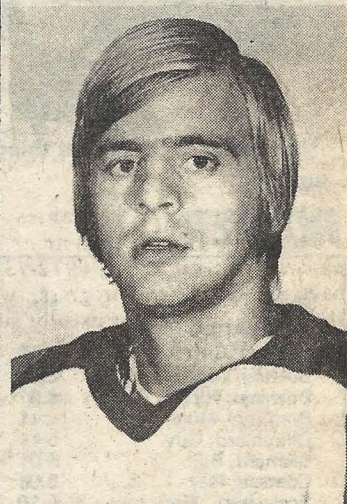
THE OMNI



Curt Bennett is Atlanta's on-ice leader.



Eric Vail



Dan Bouchard



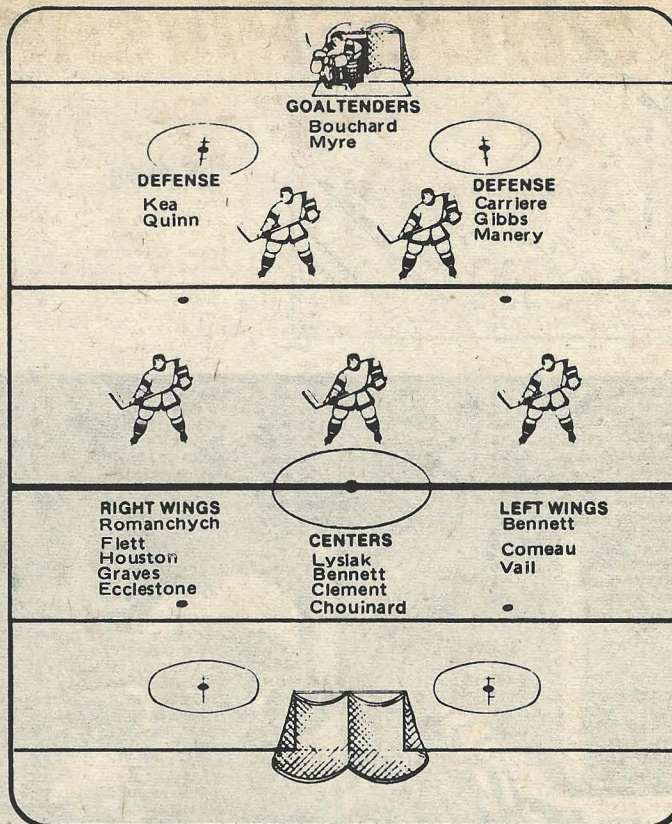
Pat Quinn



Tom Lysiak is the closest thing the Flames have to a superstar.

ROSTER

DEPTH CHART



1976-77 ATLANTA FLAMES

Player	Hgt.	Wgt.	Place of Birth	Date of Birth	1975-76 Club	1975-76 Record		
FORWARDS						G	A	Pts.
Bennett, Curt	6.03	195	Regina, Sask.	March 27, 1948	Atlanta	34	31	65
Botting, Cam	6.02	205	Kingston, Ont.	March 20, 1954	Tulsa	22	29	51
Bowness, Rich	6.01	185	Moncton, N.B.	January 25, 1955	Tulsa	25	38	63
Bradbury, Mike	5.11	185	Minnedosa, Man.	February 16, 1955	Brandon Jrs.	46	70	116
Chouinard, Guy	5.11	175	Quebec City, Que.	October 20, 1956	Nova Scotia	40	40	80
Clement, Bill	6.01	190	Buckingham, Que.	December 20, 1950	Wash.-Atlanta	23	31	54
Comeau, Rey	5.08	170	Montreal, Que.	October 25, 1948	Atlanta	17	22	39
Ecclestone, Tim	5.10	195	Toronto, Ont.	September 24, 1947	Atlanta	6	21	27
Flett, Bill	6.01	195	Vermillion, Alta.	July 21, 1943	Atlanta	23	17	40
Graves, Hilliard	5.11	175	St. John N.B.	October 18, 1950	Atlanta	19	30	49
Houston, Ken	6.02	200	Dresden, Ont.	September 15, 1953	Atlanta	5	6	11
Lysiak, Tom	6.01	190	High Prairie, Alta.	April 27, 1953	Atlanta	31	51	82
McMullin, Dale	5.10	175	Nelson, B.C.	March 13, 1955	Brandon Jrs.	56	74	130
Moschella, Jerry	5.11	185	Boston, Mass.	August 26, 1956	Tyngsboro Jrs.	14	15	29
Phillipoff, Harold	6.03	220	Kamsack, Sask.	July 14, 1956	N. W'minster Jrs.	38	51	89
Plett, Bill	6.03	205	Paraguay, S.A.	June 7, 1955	Tulsa	30	20	50
Romanchych, Larry	6.01	180	Vancouver, B.C.	September 7, 1949	Atlanta	16	19	35
Simpson, Robert	6.00	190	Caughnawaga, Que.	November 17, 1956	Sherbrooke Jrs.	56	77	133
Sturges, John	6.00	195	Toronto, Ont.	October 20, 1952	Michigan State	17	43	60
Vail, Eric	6.02	210	Schumacher, Ontario	September 16, 1953	Atlanta	16	31	47
DEFENSEMEN								
Brown, Peter	6.02	190	Boston, Mass.	May 21, 1954	Boston University	9	42	51
Carriere, Larry	6.01	190	Montreal, Que.	January 3, 1952	Atlanta	4	15	13
Fox, Greg	6.02	190	Port McNeil, B.C.	August 12, 1953	Univ. of Mich.	1	21	22
Gibbs, Barry	5.11	195	Lloydminster, Sask.	September 28, 1948	Atlanta	8	21	29
Hanson, Dave	6.00	195	Cumberland, Wisc.	April 12, 1954	Johnstown (NAHL)	8	21	29
Hodgson, Rick	6.00	175	Medicine Hat, Alta.	May 23, 1956	Calgary Jrs.	7	48	55
Kea, Ed	6.03	190	Collingwood, Ont.	January 19, 1948	Atlanta	8	19	27
Lindskog, Tom	6.00	190	Red Deer, Alta.	March 28, 1954	Univ. of Mich.	2	29	31
Manery, Randy	6.00	180	Leamington, Ontario	January 10, 1949	Atlanta	7	32	39
Mulhern, Richard	6.01	195	Edmonton, Alta.	March 1, 1955	Tulsa	7	26	33
Quinn, Pat	6.03	215	Hamilton, Ont.	January 29, 1943	Atlanta	2	11	13
Ribble, Pat	6.04	210	Leamington, Ontario	April 26, 1954	Tulsa	3	22	25
Shand, David	6.02	200	Cold Lake, Alta.	August 11, 1956	Peterborough Jrs.	9	37	46
Spannbauer, Dick	6.02	215	St. Paul, Minn.	March 9, 1954	Hampton (SHL)	8	25	33
Surby, Glen	6.00	175	Montreal, Que.	January 24, 1953	Tulsa	3	22	25
GOALTENDERS						Mins.	GA	SO
Bouchard, Dan	6.00	180	Val D'or, Quebec	December 12, 1950	Atlanta	2671	113	2
Earp, Mark	5.11	165	Medicine Hat, Alta.	July 8, 1956	Kamloops Jrs.	3248	209	1
Grigg, Chris	6.01	185	Hamilton, Ont.	February 2, 1953	Syracuse	499	41	0
Mollenken, Lorne	6.01	183	Regina, Sask.	June 11, 1956	Winnipeg	2270	201	1
Myre, Phil	6.01	185	Ste. Anne-de-Bellevue, Que.	November 1, 1948	Atlanta	2129	123	1
Sanza, Nick	5.11	180	Montreal, Quebec	February 6, 1955	Erie/Beauce(NAHL)	591	52	0

NHL's Plus-Minus Figures For 1975-76

continued from page 69

ISLANDERS

	TGF	PGF	NET	TGA	PGA	OVER
						NET ALL
DENIS POTVIN.....	168	85	83	104	33	71 +12
BRYAN TROTTER.....	129	63	66	40	2	38 +28
JEAN POTVIN.....	139	82	57	48	7	41 +16
BILLY HARRIS.....	124	63	61	41	2	39 +22
JUDE DROUIN.....	87	34	53	35	0	35 +18
CLARK GILLIES.....	113	57	56	36	0	36 +20
J.P. PARISE.....	91	31	60	50	2	48 +12
ED WESTFALL.....	83	24	59	90	48	42 +17
BOB NYSTROM.....	72	6	66	42	0	42 +24
GARRY HOWATT.....	60	2	58	32	0	32 +26
ANDRE ST. LAURENT.....	38	2	36	23	1	22 +14
GERRY HART.....	93	2	91	82	26	56 +35
DAVE LEWIS.....	75	1	74	58	13	45 +29
LORNE HENNING.....	25	0	25	57	38	19 +6
BILLY MacMILLAN.....	27	0	27	25	3	22 +5
BERT MARSHALL.....	82	2	80	72	29	43 +37
RALPH STEWART.....	19	1	18	16	1	15 +3
BOB BOURNE.....	5	1	4	6	0	6 -2
PAT PRICE.....	6	0	6	2	0	2 +4
DAVE FORTIER.....	28	2	26	19	2	17 +9
BILLY SMITH.....	0	0	0	0	0	0 +0
GLENN RESCH.....	0	0	0	0	0	0 +0

RANGERS

	TGF	PGF	NET	TGA	PGA	OVER
						NET ALL
ROD GILBERT.....	112	39	73	81	0	81 -8
STEVE VICKERS.....	128	46	82	99	0	99 -17
PHIL ESPOSITO.....	96	45	51	104	14	90 -39
RICK MIDDLETON.....	85	38	47	86	1	85 -38
CAROL VADNAIS.....	145	49	96	143	30	113 -17
WAYNE DILLON.....	67	8	59	70	0	70 -11
PETE STENKOWSKI.....	50	4	46	73	20	53 -7
GREG POLIS.....	50	3	47	58	3	55 -8
PAT HICKEY.....	50	14	36	70	5	65 -29
WALT KACZUK.....	44	4	40	81	31	50 -10
BILL FAIRBAIRN.....	54	4	50	94	30	64 -14
RON GRESCHNER.....	85	21	64	135	20	115 -51
GILLES MAROTTE.....	85	8	67	98	28	70 -3
JEAN RATELLE.....	20	9	11	12	3	9 +2
LARRY SACHARUK.....	32	21	11	26	1	25 -14
JERRY HOLLAND.....	18	4	14	19	0	19 -5
JOHN BEDNARSKI.....	41	1	40	62	7	55 -15
NICK BEVERLEY.....	56	0	56	87	22	65 -9
BILL COLLINS.....	14	1	13	39	7	32 -19
BRAD PARK.....	20	10	10	21	7	14 -4
DAVE MALONEY.....	18	3	15	29	7	22 -7
DOUG JARRETT.....	32	0	32	73	15	58 -26
EDDIE JOHNSTONE.....	5	0	5	1	0	1 +4
JOHN DAVIDSON.....	0	0	0	0	0	0 +0
RON FARRIS.....	1	0	1	2	0	2 -1
DOUG SOETAERT.....	0	0	0	0	0	0 +0
GREG HOLST.....	0	0	0	3	0	3 -3
DEREK SANDERSON.....	0	0	0	13	5	8 -8
DALE LEWIS.....	0	0	0	2	0	2 -2

PHILADELPHIA

	TGF	PGF	NET	TGA	PGA	OVER
						NET ALL
BOBBY CLARKE.....	164	59	105	52	30	22 +83
BILL BARBER.....	162	57	105	57	26	31 +74
REGGIE LEACH.....	152	46	106	33	0	33 +73
OREST KINDRACHUK.....	100	31	69	61	24	37 +32
GARY DORNHOFFER.....	86	33	53	49	10	39 +14
MEL BRIDGMAN.....	64	10	54	34	2	32 +22
DON SALESKI.....	74	7	67	47	13	34 +33
ROSS LONSBERRY.....	88	26	62	56	23	33 +29
RICK MACLEISH.....	70	27	43	49	12	37 +6
L. GOODENOUGH.....	127	47	80	52	17	35 +45
TOM BLADON.....	124	30	94	70	21	49 +45
ANDRE DUPONT.....	105	23	82	72	30	42 +40
JIMMY WATSON.....	119	7	112	93	46	47 +65
DAVE SCHULTZ.....	48	0	48	24	0	24 +24
JOE WATSON.....	96	2	94	73	35	38 +56
BOB KELLY.....	36	2	34	31	0	31 +3
TERRY CRISP.....	22	1	21	19	4	15 +6
ED VAN IMPE.....	39	0	39	43	20	23 +16
JACK McILHARGY.....	31	1	30	20	1	19 +11
LARRY WRIGHT.....	1	0	1	0	0	0 +1
BOB SIROIS.....	0	0	0	0	0	0 +0
PAUL HOLMGREN.....	0	0	0	0	0	0 +0
TERRY MURRAY.....	1	0	1	1	0	0 +0

PITTSBURGH

	TGF	PGF	NET	TGA	PGA	OVER
						NET ALL
PIERRE LAROCHE.....	136	43	93	90	1	89 +4
JEAN PRONOVOST.....	148	51	97	92	11	81 +16
SYL APPS.....	150	55	95	94	16	78 +17
RICK KHEOE.....	102	18	84	75	0	75 +9
LOWELL MACDONALD.....	106	40	66	56	4	52 +14
RON STACKHOUSE.....	162	50	112	120	27	93 +19
VIC HADFIELD.....	107	38	69	77	5	72 -3

RON SCHOCK.....	82	7	75	94	21	73 +2
BOB KELLY.....	89	11	78	75	1	74 +4
DAVE BURROWS.....	152	15	137	155	45	110 +27
BARRY WILKINS.....	92	7	85	107	21	86 -1
STAN GILBERTSON.....	38	9	29	32	0	32 -3
SIMON NOLET.....	34	6	28	21	0	21 +7
COLIN CAMPBELL.....	60	2	58	77	15	62 -4
DENNIS OWCHAR.....	66	2	63	65	15	50 +13
CHUCK ARNASON.....	18	1	17	21	0	21 -4
LEW MORRISON.....	15	0	15	51	43	8 +7
MARIO FAUBERT.....	26	5	21	19	4	15 +6
STEVE DURBANO.....	31	2	29	23	3	20 +9
HARVEY BENNETT.....	16	1	15	11	0	11 +4
WAYNE BIANCHINI.....	9	0	9	13	0	13 -4
ED VAN IMPE.....	17	0	17	16	3	13 +4
BOB McMANAMA.....	3	0	3	11	8	3 +0
ED GILBERT.....	3	1	2	20	17	3 -1
JACQUES COSSETTE.....	4	0	4	6	0	6 -2
MICHEL PLASSE.....	0	0	0	0	0	0 +0
BOB PARADISE.....	4	0	4	15	4	11 -7

ST. LOUIS

	TGF	PGF	NET	TGA	PGA	OVER
						NET ALL
CHUCK LEFLEY.....	112	36	76	99	38	61 +15
GARRY UNGER.....	110	43	67	79	13	66 +1
DEREK SANDERSON.....	86	23	63	90	40	50 +13
BOB MacMILLAN.....	88	20	68	83	28	55 +13
RED BERENSON.....	72	40	32	80	37	43 -11
JERRY BUTLER.....	56	9	47	56	9	47 +0
CLAUDE LAROSE.....	61	11	50	44	1	43 +7
PIERRE PLANTE.....	53	14	39	61	0	61 -22
BOB HESS.....	106	27	79	88	22	76 +3
BRUCE AFFLECK.....	92	17	75	112	40	72 +3
TED IRVINE.....	41	5	36	50	2	48 -12
FLOYD THOMSON.....	28	2	26	33	3	30 -4
WAYNE MERRICK.....	17	4	13	15	2	13 +0
LARRY PATEY.....	22	4	18	35	5	30 -12
BOB GASSOFF.....	73	2	71	106	27	79 -8
BOB FLAHERTY.....	66	3	63	86	40	46 +17
RICK SMITH.....	28	5	23	35	14	21 +2
BARCLAY PLAGER.....	42	3	39	78	33	45 -6
DICK WILSON.....	36	2	34	63	19	44 -10
RAVE HRECHKOSY.....	12	4	8	6	0	6 +2
BERT WILSON.....	8	0	8	16	2	14 -6
BRIAN OGILVIE.....	3	0	3	4	0	4 -1
YVES BELANGER.....	0	0	0	0	0	0 +0
BRUCE COWICK.....	1	0	1	0	0	0 +1
JAMIE MASTERS.....	4	0	4	1	1	0 +4
RICK BOURDONNAIS.....	1	0	1	2	0	2 -1
MITCH BABIN.....	1	1	0	2	0	2 -2

TORONTO

	TGF	PGF	NET	TGA	PGA	OVER
						NET ALL
DARRYL SITTLER.....	129	35	94	111	29	82 +12
LANNY McDONALD.....	126	37	89	95	30	65 +24
ERROL THOMPSON.....	120	36	84	75	19	56 +28
BORJE SALMING.....	117	53	124	134	43	91 +33
IAN TURNBULL.....	153	48	105	118	37	81 +24
STAN WEIR.....	77	24	53	50	7	43 +10
GEORGE FERGUSON.....	57	13	44	65	32	33 +11
DAVE WILLIAMS.....	60	9	51	53	1	52 -1
INGE HAMMARSTROM.....	65	15	50	55	5	50 +0
JACK VALIQUETTE.....	44	10	34	46	4	42 -8
PAT BOUTETTE.....	51	9	42	45	2	43 -1
JIM McKENNY.....	44	14	30	42	5	37 -7
BOB NEELY.....	64	9	55	87	17	10 -15
DON ASHBY.....	31	1	30	29	4	25 +5
ROD SEILING.....	78	3	75	96	32	64 +11
BLAINE STOUGHTON.....	29	5	24	28	2	26 -2
GREG HUBICK.....	24	1	23	31	8	23 +0
CLAIRE ALEXANDER.....	23	7	16	18	2	16 +0
DAVE DUNN.....	36	3	33	51	13	38 -5
BRIAN GLENNE.....	49	0	49	51	12	39 +10
SCOTT GARLAND.....	12	3	9	9	0	9 +0
KURT WALKER.....	0	0	0	2	0	2 -2

VANCOUVER

	TGF	PGF	NET	TGA	PGA	OVER
						NET ALL
DENNIS VERVERGAERT.....	103	29	74	79	4	75 -1
DON LEVER.....	89	28	61	72	9	63 -2
CHRIS OODLEFSON.....	94	27	67	72	22	50 +17
JOHN GOULD.....	83	24	59	69	19	50 +9
RICK BUGHT.....	79	27	52	57	1	56 -4
DENNIS KEARNS.....	126	46	80	101	15	86 -6
BOBBY LALONDE.....	63	8	55	64	5	59 -4
BOB BAILEY.....	105	38	67	94	22	72 -5
GERRY O'FLAHERTY.....	56	2	54	71	28	43 +11
ANDRE BOUDRIAS.....	52	15	33	49	9	40 -7
GARRY MONAHAN.....	51	6	45	69	23	44 +1
RON SEDLBAUER.....	60	20	40	48	4	44 -4
MIKE ROBITAILLE.....	90	16	74	95	29	66 +8
HAROLD STAPLETON.....	80	4	76	93	27	66 +10
PAULIN BORDALEAU.....	26	5	21	24	2	22 -1

MIKE WALTON.....	18	8	9	4	0	4 +5
GREGG BODDY.....	17	2	15	17	0	17 -2
AB DEMARCO.....	22	12	10	15	2	13 -3
GLEN RICHARDSON.....	15	1	14	15	0	15 -1
JOHN GRISDALE.....	37	5	32	38	10	28 +4
BOB MURRAY.....	30	0	30	45	18	27 +3
TRACY PRATT.....	40	2	38	70	25	43 -7
LEON ROCHEFORT.....	4	0	4	10	2	8 -4
GARY SMITH.....	0	0	0	0	0	0 +0
JIM WILEY.....	0	0	0	1	0	1 -1
BRAD GASSOFF.....	0	0	0	2	0	2 -2

WASHINGTON

	TGF	PGF	NET	TGA	PGA	OVER
						NET ALL
NELSON PYATT.....	70	16	54	120	10	110 -56
HART MONAHAN.....	76	17	59	122	14	108 -49
TONY WHITE.....	75	23	52	101	6	95 -43
GARNET BAILEY.....	59	21	38	84	4	80 -42
GERRY MEEHAN.....	42	12	30	47	10	37 -7
BOB SIROIS.....	34	12	22	55	0	55 -33
RON LALONDE.....	48	6	42	94	26	



JOHN FERGUSON

New York Rangers

It's up to Espo

The Rangers problem is simple. Shore up the incredibly porous defense and do it quickly, or finish out of the playoffs once more. With goalie John Davidson as their main man, New York surrendered 333 goals, the most in their history, and better only than Kansas City and Washington.

General Manager-coach John Ferguson, who picked up the arduous task of sifting through the Ranger ruins left by the Emile Francis regime, has indicated he wants more spirit, physical conditioning and team character. He swapped right wing Rick Middleton to Boston for Ken Hodge, who will be installed with his old partner, Phil Esposito, on the Rangers first line.

Ferguson cast around and signed talented, but temperamental goalie Gilles Gratton, as competition for Davidson. In fairness to the mammoth J.D., his support was almost non-existent. Only Carol Vadnais, obtained in the controversial trade which sent Jean Ratelle and Brad Park to Boston for Espo and Vadnais, had a good season on the blue line. And he was a minus 17. No Ranger regular was a plus, unless you count Ratelle's early season plus 2. Esposito was a minus 39.

Vadnais' defense partners include off-traded Gilles Marotte, youthful

Ron Greschner, veteran Doug Jarrett and youngsters of the Lawrence Sacharuk, John Bednarski, Dave Maloney mold. Greschner was a victim of the sophomore jinx last year. He can get better. Sacharuk is a great offensive player, but defense is not his thing. Bednarski is tough, but lacks real talent, and Maloney is a young man who will have to learn under fire.

On the forward line the question remains who will be the left wing with Esposito and Hodge. Most likely it will be Steve Vickers, although most experts feel that a Wayne Cashman type corner man, who could get the puck to the big center in the slot, is the real answer.

A comeback from enigmatic center Walt Tkaczuk is mandatory. A former top flight star, Tkaczuk registered 8 goals and 28 assists and had clearly lost his confidence. At a salary of \$175,000 per, he is virtually untradable. His partner, right wing Billy Fairbairn, had a bad year with 13-15-28. He is under fire and may lose his job.

Vickers and Rod Gilbert are Ranger pluses. Vickers got his annual 30 goals, with Gilbert leading the team with 36. Esposito scored 35. Gilbert is unhappy over Esposito having been awarded the team captaincy by Francis at the time of the Trade. But he still puts out and

breaks his back for his team—the New York Rangers, for whom he has played since 1960-61.

A major question is Wayne Dillon, whom the Rangers pay about \$200,000 per year. A World Hockey Association whiz, Dillon didn't check up to NHL standards and played only part time. He did nicely in the point parade, with 21-24-45, but never was a regular. He might play with Gilbert and any number of left wing candidates, including Greg Polis, or Pat Hickey.

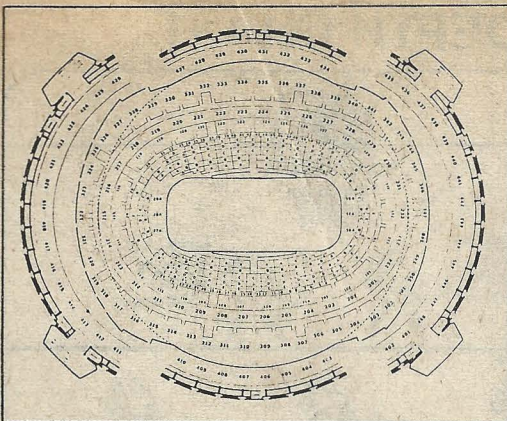
Don Murdoch, the Rangers' number one draft choice, is a right wing, so he joins the sweepstakes with Gilbert, Fairbairn, Hodge and Billy Collins at that spot.

Jean Guy Talbot and Ron Stewart will assist Ferguson. Talbot has coaching experience with St. Louis and Denver of the WHA. He and Ferguson are former Montreal Canadiens buddies. Despite the feeling of the Rangers brass that all New York needs is a push from a tough minded coach, the reality is that the Rangers are hurting on defense and in goal.

They need all the pieces to fall into place in order to make a challenge for the playoffs.

PAST RECORD

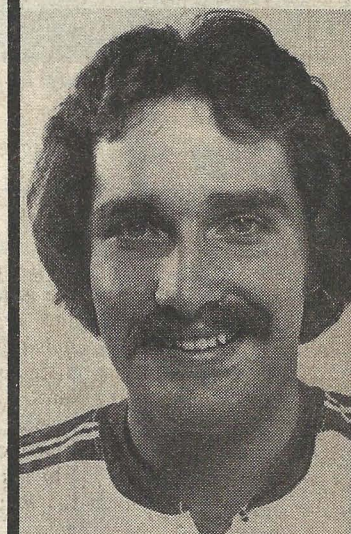
Year	W	L	T	Pts.	%	GF	GA	Plus or Minus	GF/ Game	GA/ Game	Year	Shts./ Game	Shtg. %	Power Play	Pen. Killed	Pen. Min./ Game	Finish	Playoff Result
67-68	39	23	12	90(2)	.608	226(4)	183(4)	43(3)	3.05	2.47	67-68	33.3(1)	9.2(5)	21.2(1)	80.3(10)	9.1(9)	2E	L-QF
68-69	41	26	9	91(3)	.599	231(6)	196(2)	35(4)	3.04	2.58	68-69	37.4(1)	8.1(9)	20.4(2)	84.3(4)	10.6(9)	3E	L-QF
69-70	38	22	16	92(4)	.605	246(4)	189(3)	57(3)	3.24	2.49	69-70	36.0(2)	9.0(7)	17.6(8)	85.2(2)	11.2(11)	4E	L-QF
70-71	49	18	11	109(2)	.699	259(4)	177(1)	82(3)	3.32	2.27	70-71	35.8(2)	9.4(8)	25.6(2)	83.8(4)	12.2(11)	2E	L-SF
71-72	48	17	13	109(2)	.699	317(2)	192(3)	125(2)	4.06	2.46	71-72	36.0(1)	11.2(3)	23.3(3)	84.4(2)	12.9(5)	2E	L-F
72-73	47	23	8	102(3)	.654	297(3)	208(2)	89(3)	3.81	2.67	72-73	34.6(1)	11.0(5)	22.7(3)	84.4(5)	9.8(15)	3E	L-SF
73-74	40	24	14	94(5)	.602	300(2)	251(11)	49(5)	3.85	3.22	73-74	32.7(4)	11.7(4)	29.7(1)	81.2(7)	10.0(14)	3E	L-SF
74-75	37	29	14	88(7)	.550	319(5)	276(11)	43(6)	3.99	3.45	74-75	34.0(5)	11.8(4)	28.4(2)	81.7(7)	13.1(14)	2P	L-P R
75-76	29	42	9	67(13)	.419	262(11)	333(17)	71(14)	3.28	4.16	75-76	32.8(7)	9.9(16)	20.7(8)	75.5(14)	11.4(18)	4P	-



MADISON SQUARE GARDEN



Rod Gilbert



John Davidson

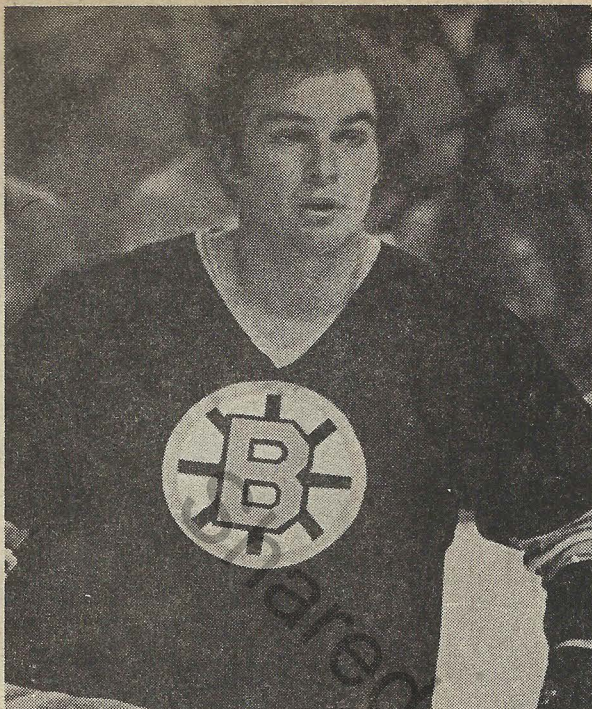


Steve Vickers



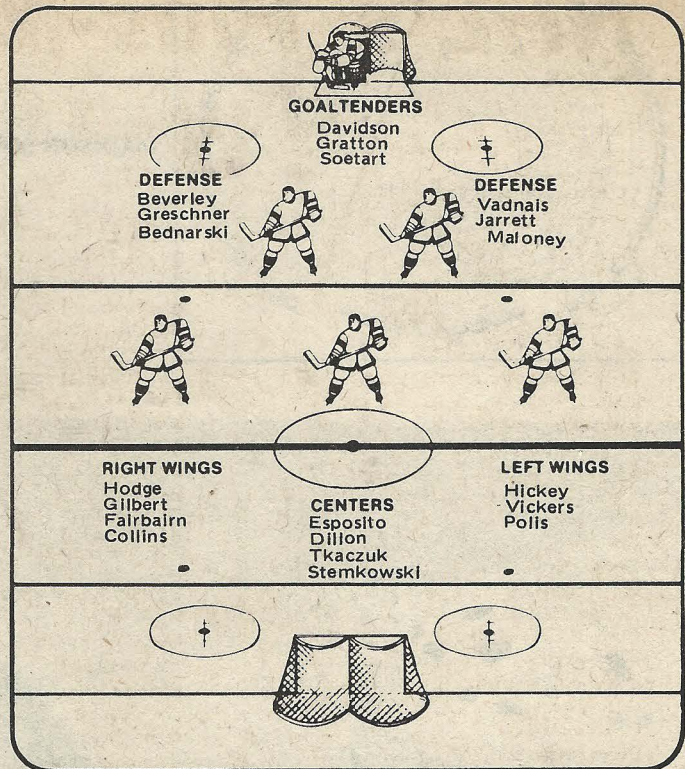
A comeback by Walter Tkaczuk is fundamental to the Rangers' improvement.

DEPTH CHART



Former Bruin Ken Hodge will be a welcome addition on Broadway

ROSTER



1976-77 N.Y. RANGERS

Player	Hgt.	Wgt.	Place of Birth	Date of Birth	1975-76 Club	1975-76 Record G A Pts
FORWARDS						
Anderson, Boyd	5.11	180	Carrot River, Sask.	May 15, 1954	Providence	27 29 56
Byers, Jerry	5.11	170	Kentville, N.S.	March 29, 1952	Providence	27 34 61
Caines, Doug	5.10	180	Toronto, Ont.	August 29, 1956	St. Catharines Jrs	38 56 94
Collins, Bill	6.00	180	Ottawa, Ont.	July 13, 1943	N.Y. Rangers	4 4 8
Dillon, Wayne	6.00	180	Toronto, Ont.	May 25, 1955	N.Y. Rangers	21 24 45
Esposito, Phil	6.01	205	Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.	February 20, 1942	Boston-N.Y. Rangers	35 48 83
Fairbairn, Bill	5.10	195	Brandon, Man.	January 7, 1947	N.Y. Rangers	13 15 28
Foti, Nick	6.02	200	Staten Island, N.Y.	May 25, 1952	New England (WHA)	3 2 5
Gilbert, Rod	6.09	180	Montreal, Que.	July 1, 1941	N.Y. Rangers	36 60 86
Heaslip, Mark	5.10	190	Duluth, Minn.	December 26, 1951	Ft. Worth-Oklahoma City	10 22 32
Hickey, Greg	5.10	160	Toronto, Ont.	March 8, 1955	Providence-Port Huron	4 9 13
Hickey, Pat	6.01	180	Brantford, Ont.	May 15, 1953	N.Y. Rangers	14 22 36
Hodge, Ken	6.02	215	Birmingham, England	June 25, 1944	Boston	25 36 61
Holland, Jerry	5.10	180	Beaverlodge, Alta.	August 25, 1954	N.Y. Rangers-Providence	16 15 31
Holst, Greg	5.10	170	Montreal, Que.	January 1, 1952	N.Y. Rangers-Providence	37 44 81
Johnstone, Eddie	5.09	170	Brandon, Man.	March 2, 1954	N.Y. Rangers-Providence	25 34 59
Levesque, Remi	5.10	175	Verdun, Que.	March 6, 1956	Quebec Jrs.	34 28 62
Lewis, Dale	6.00	175	Edmonton, Alta.	July 28, 1952	N.Y. Rangers-Providence	14 27 41
Murdoch, Don	5.11	180	Cranbrook, B.C.	October 25, 1956	Medicine Hat Jrs.	88 77 165
Newman, Dan	6.01	195	Cottam, Ont.	January 26, 1952	Port Huron	39 45 84
Periard, Claude	5.11	175	La Salle, Que.	September 22, 1956	Three Rivers Jrs.	30 30 60
Polis, Greg	6.01	195	Westlock, Alta.	August 8, 1950	N.Y. Rangers	15 21 36
Scully, Barry	5.10	185	Toronto, Ont.	April 22, 1956	Kingston Jrs.	25 51 76
Stemkowski, Peter	6.01	210	Winnipeg, Man.	August 25, 1943	N.Y. Rangers	13 28 41
Teeple, Jerry	6.00	180	Winnipeg, Man.	September 10, 1952	Providence-Oklahoma City	13 27 40
Tkaczuk, Walter	6.00	190	Emsdetten, Germany	September 29, 1947	N.Y. Rangers	8 28 36
Vickers, Steve	6.00	185	Toronto, Ont.	April 21, 1951	N.Y. Rangers	30 53 83
DEFENSEMEN						
Bednarski, John	5.10	180	Thunder Bay, Ont.	July 4, 1952	N.Y. Rangers	1 8 9
Beverley, Nick	6.02	185	Toronto, Ont.	April 21, 1947	N.Y. Rangers	1 8 9
Farrish, Dave	6.00	190	Wingham, Ont.	September 1, 1956	Sudbury Jrs	27 48 75
Greschner, Ron	6.02	185	Goodsoil, Sask.	December 22, 1954	N.Y. Rangers	6 21 27
Harris, Ron	5.10	190	Verdun, Que.	June 30, 1942	N.Y. Rangers	0 1 1
Huras, Larry	6.02	200	Listowel, Ont.	July 8, 1955	Port Huron-Providence	3 11 24
Jarrett, Doug	6.01	205	London, Ont.	April 22, 1944	N.Y. Rangers	0 4 4
Maloney, Dave	6.01	185	Kitchener, Ont.	July 31, 1956	N.Y. Rangers-Providence	6 20 25
Marotte, Gilles	5.09	195	Montreal, Que.	June 7, 1945	N.Y. Rangers	4 17 21
McEwen, Mike	6.01	175	Hornepayne, Ont.	August 10, 1956	Toronto Jrs.	23 40 63
Sacharuk, Larry	6.00	190	Saskatoon, Sask.	September 16, 1952	N.Y. Rangers	6 7 13
Stewart, Paul	6.01	195	Jamaica Plain, Mass.	March 21, 1953	Binghamton	3 4 7
Vadnais, Carol	6.01	210	Montreal, Que.	September 25, 1945	Boston-N.Y. Rangers	22 25 57
GOALTENDERS						
Davidson, John	6.03	205	Ottawa, Ont.	February 27, 1953	N.Y. Rangers	3207 212 3
Gratton, Gilles	5.11	160	LaSalle, Que.	July 28, 1952	St. Louis	265 11 0
Ralph, Mike	5.09	170	Toronto, Ont.	September 27, 1952	Port Huron	1838 117 2
Soetart, Doug	6.00	185	Edmonton, Alta.	April 21, 1955	Providence-N.Y. Rangers	1169 89 0
Wilson, Dunc	5.11	175	Toronto, Ont.	March 22, 1948	Baltimore-N.Y. Rangers	1405 91 1

NHL's Plus-Minus Figures For 1975-76

continued from page 73

PLUS Players...

Craig Ramsay	44
Dallas Smith	42
Andre Dupont	40
Jim Schoenfeld	40
Bill Hajt	39
Yvan Cournoyer	37
Bert Marshall	37
Don Luce	37
Gerry Hart	35
Borje Salming	33
Don Saleski	33
Orest Kindrachuk	32
Danny Gare	32
Wayne Cashman	30
Don Awrey	30
Ross Lonsberry	29
Dave Lewis	29
Errol Thompson	28
Bryan Trottier	28
Dave Burrows	27
Jacques Lemaire	26
Gary Howatt	26
Gary Doak	25

Murray Wilson	25
Gregg Sheppard	24
Lanny McDonald	24
Ian Turnbull	24
Bob Nystrom	24
Dave Schultz	24
Brad Park	23
Richard Martin	23
Mel Bridgman	22
Billy Harris	22
John Bucyk	22
Ed Kea	21

MINUS Players...

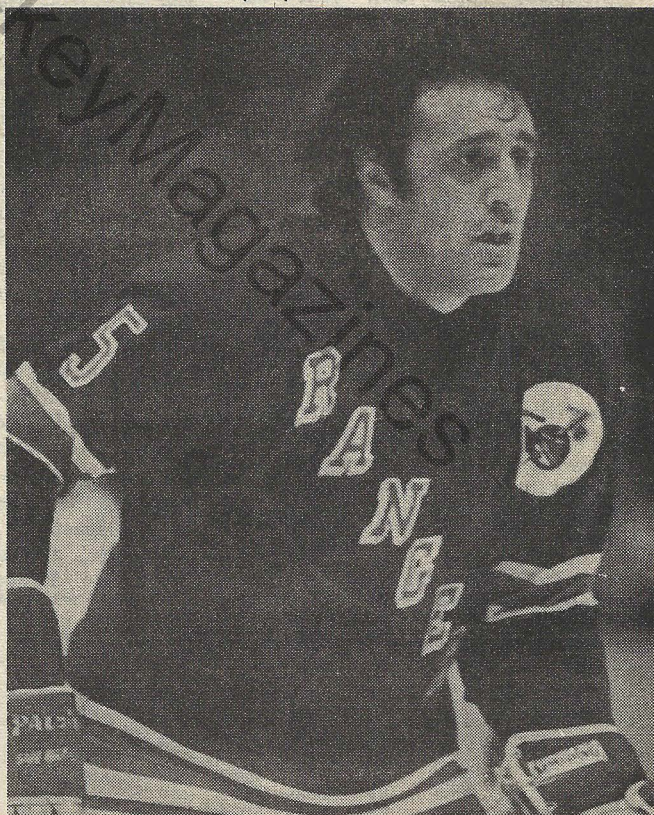
Larry Johnston	61
Nelson Pyatt	56
Blair Stewart	53
Jack Lynch	52
Gary Bergman	52
Ron Greschner	51
Guy Charron	51
Hartland Monahan	49
Willie Brossart	49
Greg Joly	46
Tony White	43
Ace Bailey	42

Bob Paradise	41
Robin Burns	40
Phil Esposito	39
Randy Rota	38
Rick Middleton	38
Jean-Guy Lagace	38
Yvon Labre	38
Pete Scamurra	38
Wilf Paiement	37
Chuck Arnason	35
Bob Stewart	34
Lou Nanne	34
Bob Sirois	33
Tom Williams	33
Buster Harvey	31
Ernie Hicke	31
Steve Durbano	30
Dennis Hextall	29
Pat Hickey	29
Eddie Gilbert	29
Dave Hudson	28
Dennis Patterson	28
Craig Cameron	27
Harvey Bennett	27
Larry Brown	27
Dennis O'Brien	26
Bobby Lalonde	26
Doug Jarrett	26
Ralph Klassen	26
Fred Barrett	25

NHL PLUS-MINUS FIGURES ARE ON PAGES 69, 73, 77.



Bobby Clarke receives Hart Trophy from Maurice Richard. Clarke finished at plus 83, best in the N.H.L.



Phil Esposito of Rangers was a big disappointment at minus 39.



Clarence Campbell Conference

Smythe Division

ROUNDUPS

By NORM MAC LEAN

Teams in order of predicted finish.



BILLY REAY

Chicago Black Hawks

Will Hawks pan gold with Orr?

The Black Hawks gambled \$3 million on Bobby Orr in an effort to revive a wheezing franchise. It may seem hard to say that a team which finished first in its division is slipping, but the Chicagos have been the beneficiaries of amazing good fortune in picking the right place to list their wins and losses since the NHL "convinced" Tommy Ivan, their cagy general manager to leave the established East and join the expansion West in 1969-70.

Since then, they have won a divisional title every year except two, but their team has dramatically fallen from genuine contender status to pretender. And the sophisticated citizenry of Chicagoland appeared about 3,000 less in number at home games in 1975-76.

It all traces back to the day Robert Marvin Hull signed with the WHA and thus created that league in time for the 1972-73 season. In 1970-71 Chicago played a tough seven game Cup final with Montreal. Even without Hull they reached the finals in 1973, but it has been downhill since then, despite the hard work and effort of veteran star Stan Mikita and professionals of the caliber of goaler Tony Esposito and Pit Martin.

If Orr can make it on his gimpy oft-

operated upon knees, the Hawks will still have to compensate the Boston Bruins.

The Hawks eked out the Smythe Division title with a 32-30 record plus tied games, and a goals-for, which showed seven less goals than they allowed. Chicago was nicked for 261 tallies and scored 254.

Mikita, Dennis Hull and Cliff Koroll make up the nucleus of one line, with Martin and Ivan Boldirev working with the other trios. Dale Tallon, who made a great comeback from a bad hip suffered in 1974, could switch to center, with Orr available.

More likely he, Bill White, youthful Phil Russell and forward-defenseman Dick Redmond will rotate on the blue line. If Orr makes it, a combination of Orr and White would be hard to beat. Tallon and Russell make for interesting thoughts.

The Hawks lack the big scorer, with only Martin's 32 goals reaching the 30 goal plateau. Bobby Hull used to be good for forty to fifty and his brother, Dennis, for about thirty to forty. Both Vancouver and St. Louis, Chicago's main rivals, scored more goals.

Tony Esposito bounced back from a poor 1974-75 season, but is now 33, and suspect on long shots. Gilles Villemure, the super sub, obtained from the Rangers, will see more

action.

Billy Reay, the dean of NHL coaches, returns once more.

Actually, Reay is canny, and more combative than he appears. He is a survivor—who has kept mediocre teams alive.

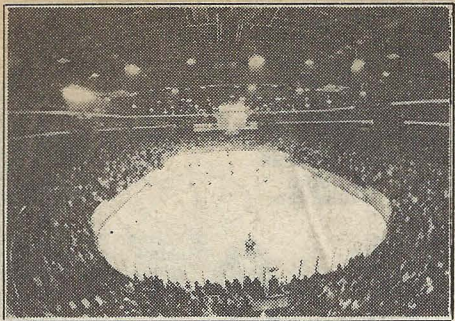
It is possible that Ivan's signing of Orr and his involvement with Team USA in the Canada Cup is a last hurrah. In which case Reay may step up as general manager—and Bobby Kromm, long overlooked in the CHL might come back to Chicago from Winnipeg in the WHA.

Rumors that Bobby Hull will return to the NHL abound, but Chicago insiders feel that the Arthur Wirtz family would not let Bobby play for Chicago. Too much water passed under the bridge when Hull left. He must wonder why Wirtz couldn't have given him some of that money being spent on Orr. If they had done so, the Hawks would still be selling out and there might be no World Hockey Association.

Meanwhile, it is up to Bobby one leg to do his thing. Reay's thing should be enough for the Smythe title, but then it gets tougher in the playoffs. That's where Orr takes over, if his knees let him.

PAST RECORD

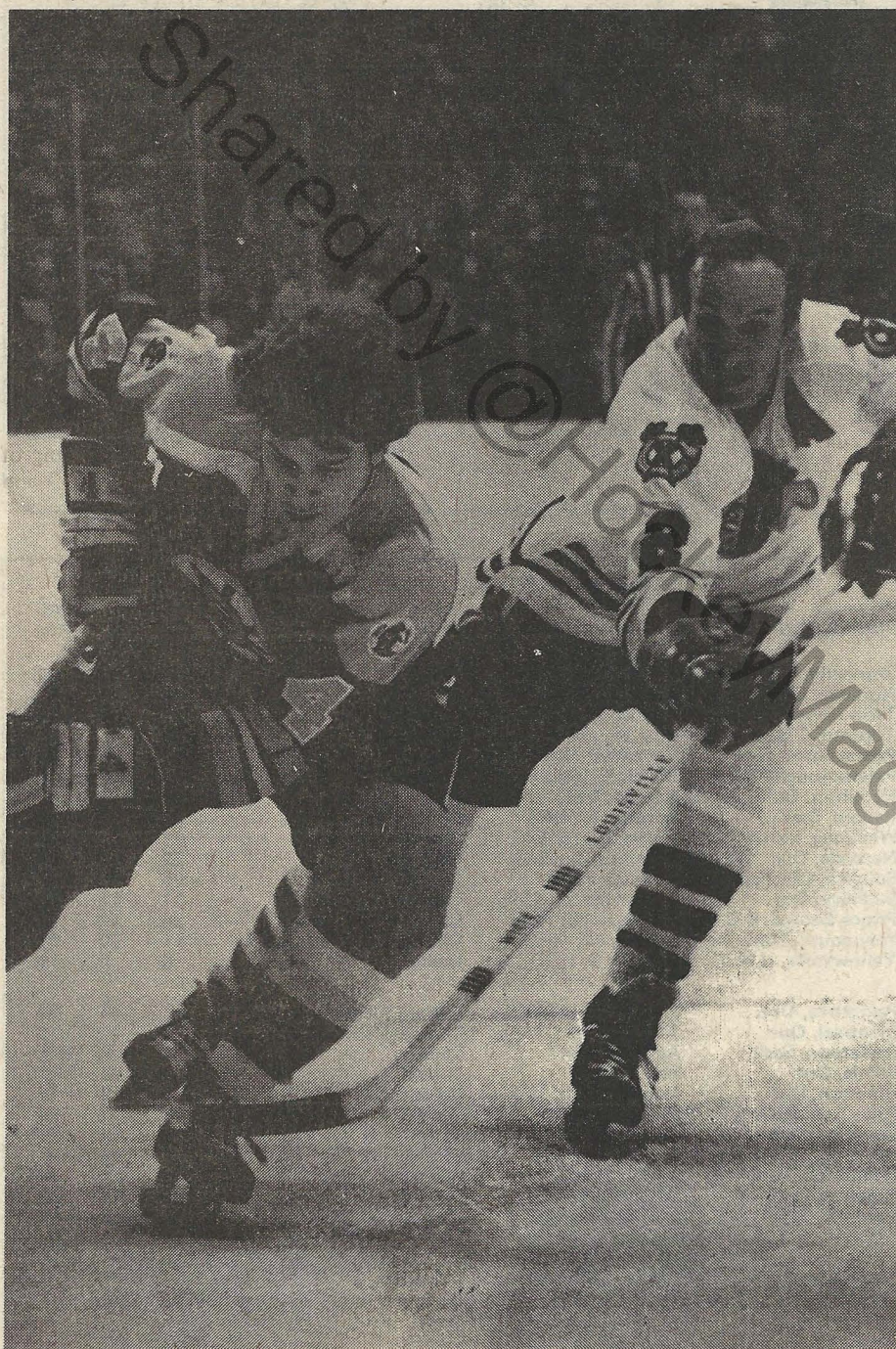
Year	W	L	T	Pts.	%	GF	GA	Plus or Minus	GF/ Game	GA/ Game	Year	Shts./ Game	Shtg. %	Power Play	Pen. Killed	Pen. Min./ Game	Finish	Playoff Result
67-68	32	26	16	80(4)	.541	212(5)	222(9)	[10](6)	2.86	3.00	67-68	30.0(8)	9.6(4)	15.8(9)	83.0(7)	8.2(11)	4E	L-SF
68-69	34	33	9	77(6)	.507	280(2)	246(8)	34(5)	3.68	3.24	68-69	33.9(4)	10.9(2)	20.0(3)	81.8(8)	11.1(6)	6E	—
69-70	45	22	9	99(1)	.651	250(2)	170(1)	80(1)	3.29	2.24	69-70	32.2(6)	10.2(1)	20.4(5)	87.1(1)	11.9(7)	1E	L-SF
70-71	49	20	9	107(3)	.686	277(3)	184(2)	93(2)	3.55	2.36	70-71	31.0(9)	11.4(2)	20.6(4)	84.0(3)	16.4(2)	1W	L-F
71-72	46	17	15	107(4)	.686	256(5)	166(1)	90(4)	3.28	2.13	71-72	29.3(11)	11.1(4)	16.9(10)	85.4(1)	10.8(11)	1W	L-SF
72-73	42	27	9	93(4)	.596	284(5)	225(4)	59(4)	3.64	2.88	72-73	29.9(11)	12.1(3)	21.3(5)	80.0(11)	11.0(11)	1W	L-F
73-74	41	14	23	105(3)	.673	272(6)	164(1)	108(3)	3.49	2.10	73-74	27.4(14)	12.7(2)	21.6(4)	87.5(2)	11.2(10)	2W	L-SF
74-75	37	35	8	82(12)	.513	268(11)	241(7)	27(9)	3.35	3.01	74-75	30.9(9)	10.8(11)	21.5(7)	79.9(10)	12.6(15)	3S	L-QF
75-76	32	30	18	82(8)	.513	254(13)	261(7)	[7](11)	3.18	3.26	75-76	29.4(12)	10.8(13)	21.1(7)	82.6(7)	11.6(16)	1S	L-QF



CHICAGO STADIUM



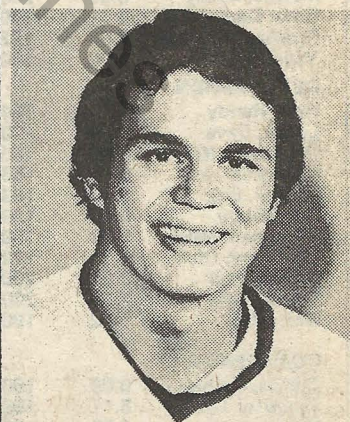
Ivan Boldirev



Defenseman Bill White (2) and new teammate, Bobby Orr.



Dick Redmond

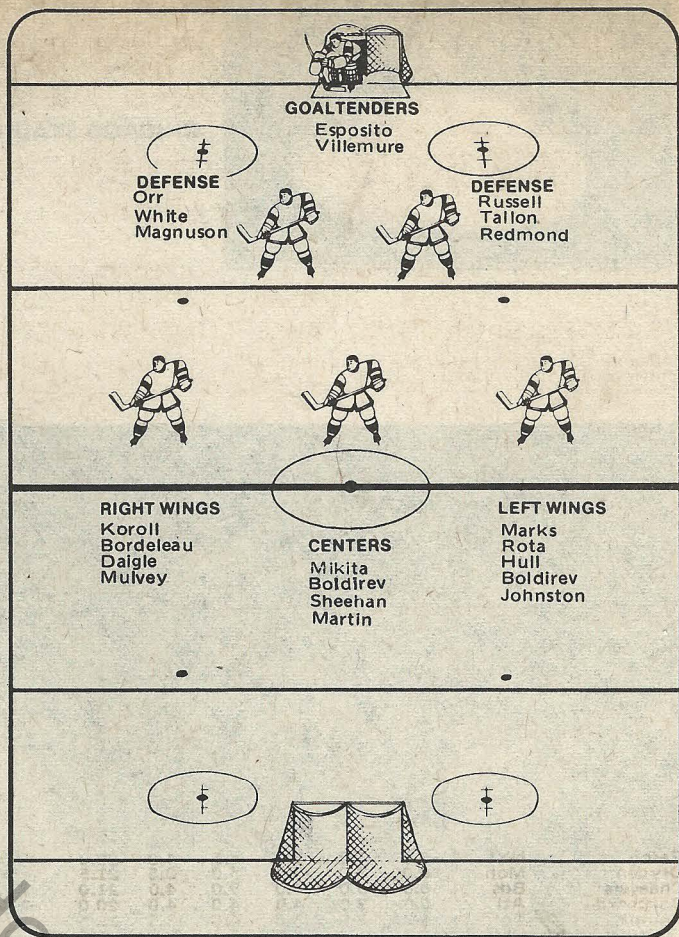


Phil Russell

DEPTH CHART



Stan Mikita



ROSTER

1976-77 CHICAGO BLACK HAWKS

Player	Hgt.	Wgt	Place of Birth	Date of Birth	1975-76 Club	1975-76 Record		
						G	A	Pts.
FORWARDS								
Boldirev, Ivan	6.00	190	Zranjanin, Yugoslavia	August 15, 1949	Chicago	28	34	62
Bordeleau, J.P.	6.00	170	Noranda, Que	June 13, 1949	Chicago	12	18	30
Daigle, Alain	5.10	180	Trois Rivières, Que.	August 24, 1954	Chicago	15	9	24
Hinton, Dan	6.10	175	Toronto, Ont.	May 24, 1953	Dallas	20	32	52
Hull, Dennis	5.11	195	Pointe Anne, Ont.	November 19, 1944	Chicago	27	39	66
Johnston, Joey	5.09	175	Peterborough, Ont.	March 3, 1949	Chicago	0	5	5
Koleff, Jim	5.11	175	Hamilton, Ont.	July 14, 1953	Dallas	29	35	64
Koroll, Cliff	6.00	195	Canora, Sask.	October 1, 1946	Chicago	25	33	58
Marks, John	6.02	200	Winnipeg, Man.	March 22, 1948	Chicago	21	23	44
Martin, Pit	5.08	165	Noranda, Que	December 9, 1943	Chicago	32	39	71
Mikita, Stan	5.09	169	Sokolce, Czechoslovakia	May 20, 1940	Chicago	16	41	57
Mulvey, Grant	6.03	200	Sudbury, Ont.	September 17, 1956	Chicago	11	17	28
Rota, Darcy	5.11	180	Prince George, B.C.	February 16, 1953	Chicago	20	17	37
Sheehan, Bobby	5.08	172	Weymouth, Mass.	January 11, 1949	Chicago	11	20	31
Vaydik, Greg	6.00	190	Yellowknife, N.W.T.	October 9, 1955	Dallas	5	5	10
DEFENSEMEN								
Holt, Randy	5.11	184	Pembroke, Ont.	January 15, 1953	Dallas-Chicago	6	46	52
Logan, Dave	5.10	190	Montreal, Que.	July 2, 1954	Chicago-Dallas	3	11	14
Magnuson, Keith	6.00	185	Saskatoon, Sask.	April 27, 1947	Chicago	1	6	7
McKegney, Ian	5.11	165	Sarnia, Ont	May 7, 1947	Dallas	3	29	32
Murray, Bob	5.10	183	Kingston, Ont.	November 26, 1954	Chicago	1	2	3
Orr, Bobby	6.00	199	Parry Sound, Ont.	March 20, 1948	Boston	5	13	18
O'Connell, Mike	5.09	180	Chicago, Illinois	November 25, 1955	Dallas	6	37	43
Redmond, Dick	5.11	172	Kirkland Lake, Ont.	August 14, 1949	Chicago	9	27	36
Russell, Phil	6.02	200	Edmonton, Alta.	July 21, 1952	Chicago	9	29	38
Tallon, Dale	6.01	200	Noranda, Que.	October 19, 1950	Chicago	15	47	62
White, Bill	6.02	190	Toronto, Ont.	August 26, 1939	Chicago	1	9	10
GOALTENDERS						Mins	GA	SO
Dumas, Michel	5.09	180	Ste. Anne, Que.	July 8, 1949	Chicago			
Esposito, Tony	5.11	185	Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.	April 23, 1943	Chicago	4003	198	4
Veisor, Mike	5.09	158	Toronto, Ont.	July 25, 1952	Dallas	3561	174	5
Villemure, Gilles	5.08	185	Three Rivers, Que.	May 30, 1940	Chicago	797	57	0
Volpe, Robert	6.03	188	Toronto, Ont.	July 6, 1954	Dallas	1006	36	2

"COMPUTER ANALYSIS OF NHL"

With VINCE DE MARCO

THE HOCKEY NEWS COMPUTER ALL-STARS

Goal: Chico Resch, Islanders
 *Defense: Denis Potvin, Islanders
 Left Wing: Butch Barber, Flyers

Defense: Brad Park, Bruins
 Center: Bobby Clarke, Flyers
 Right Wing: Guy Lafleur, Canadiens

*Bobby Orr was not listed due to his missing most of the 1975-76 season with knee surgery.

Legend
 5.0 Rating = Excellent
 4.0 Rating = Good
 3.0 Rating = Average
 2.0 Rating = Needs Impv.

1.0 Rating = Poor
 Overall Rating of 15.0 = Adequate all around player

Adjusted—Computerized Plus Minus Ratings

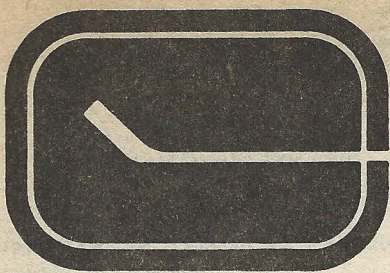
Name	Team	League Plus-Minus Rating	Adjusted Plus-Minus Rating
Clarke	Phi	+83	+55
Barber	Phi	+74	+46
Shutt	Mon	+73	+46
Leach	Phi	+73	+45
Mahovlich	Mon	+71	+44
Lafleur	Mon	+68	+41
Watson, Jim	Phi	+65	+37
Lapointe	Mon	+64	+37
McNab	Bu	+48	+28
Joe Watson	Phi	+56	+28
Meehan	Was	-7	+27
Smith	Bos	+42	+27
Guevremont	Bu	+47	+27
Savard	Mon	+52	+25
McKechnie	Det	+9	+24
Ramsey	Bu	+44	+24
Robinson	Mon	+50	+23
Harper	Det	+6	+21
Schoenfeld	Bu	+40	+20
Hajt	Bu	+39	+19
Kea	Atl	+21	+18

GOALIES		Fielding Average Goals Per Shots On Goal	One On One & Shots On Goal Per Game	Clearing Ability & Rebounds Goals Per Game	Team W-L & Fielding Avg.	Determination & Team Performance Playing Angles	Overall Rating	GOALIES		Fielding Average Goals Per Shots On Goal	One On One & Shots On Goal Per Game	Clearing Ability & Rebounds Goals Per Game	Team W-L & Fielding Avg.	Determination & Team Performance Playing Angles	Overall Rating
Resch	NYI	5.0	3.5	5.0	4.0	4.0	22.5	Lockett	Van	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	14.5
Dryden	Mon	5.0	3.5	5.0	4.0	4.0	21.5	Plasse	Pit	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	14.5
Cheevers	Bos	5.0	3.5	5.0	4.0	4.0	21.0	Smith, G.	Van	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	14.5
Bouchard	Atl	5.0	3.5	5.0	4.0	4.0	20.0	Giacomin	Det	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	14.5
Thomas	Tor	4.0	3.5	5.0	4.0	4.0	19.5	Simmons	Cal	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	14.5
Esposito	Chi	4.0	3.5	5.0	4.0	4.0	19.0	Belanger	Stl	4.0	4.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	14.5
Maniago	Min	4.0	3.5	5.0	4.0	4.0	18.5	Davidson	NYR	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	14.0
Stanowski	Stl	4.0	3.5	5.0	4.0	4.0	18.0	Crozier	Bu	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	14.0
Parent	Phi	4.0	3.5	5.0	4.0	4.0	18.0	McRae	Tor	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	14.0
Smith, B.	NYI	4.0	3.5	5.0	4.0	4.0	18.0	Smith, A.	Bu	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	13.5
Stephenson	Phi	4.0	3.5	5.0	4.0	4.0	18.0	Desjardins	Bu	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	13.5
Larocque	Mon	4.0	3.5	5.0	4.0	4.0	17.5	Gilbert	Bos	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	13.0
Herron	KC	4.0	3.5	5.0	4.0	4.0	17.0	Edwards	LA	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	12.5
Inness	Phi	4.0	3.5	5.0	4.0	4.0	17.0	LoPresti	Min	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	11.5
Wolfe	Was	4.0	3.5	5.0	4.0	4.0	16.0	Johnston	St.L	2.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	11.5
Vachon	LA	4.0	3.5	5.0	4.0	4.0	15.5	Low	Was	1.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	11.0
Meloche	Cal	4.0	3.5	5.0	4.0	4.0	15.0	Wilson	NYR	1.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	9.5
Rutherford	Det	3.0	3.0	5.0	4.0	4.0	15.0	Villeumure	Chi	1.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	9.5
Myre	Atl	3.0	3.0	5.0	4.0	4.0	15.0	McKenzie	KC	1.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	8.5

CENTERS		DEFENSE	PLAYMAKING	CLUTCH RATING	SHOOTING ACCURACY	GOAL SCORING ABILITY	OVERALL RATING	CENTERS		DEFENSE	PLAYMAKING	CLUTCH RATING	SHOOTING ACCURACY	GOAL SCORING ABILITY	OVERALL RATING
Clarke	Phi	5.0	5.0	4.5	4.0	3.5	22.0	Oddiefson	Van	4.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.0	15.0
Ratelle	Bos	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	3.5	21.5	Weir	Tor	4.0	5.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	15.0
Mahovlich	Mon	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	3.5	21.5	Maruk	Cal	3.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	4.0	15.0
Trottier	NYI	3.5	4.0	5.0	5.0	3.0	20.5	Lever	Van	3.0	2.5	3.5	3.0	4.0	14.5
Perreault	Bu	2.5	4.5	4.5	5.0	4.0	20.5	Drouin	NYI	4.0	2.5	2.5	3.0	2.5	14.5
Mikita	Chi	4.5	4.5	5.0	5.0	4.0	20.0	Berenson	St.L	4.0	2.5	3.0	3.0	3.0	14.5
Larouche	Pit	2.0	4.0	4.0	4.5	5.0	19.5	Luce	Bu	3.5	3.0	2.0	2.0	3.5	14.0
Lefley	St.L	2.5	3.0	5.0	5.0	3.5	19.0	Pyatt	Was	2.5	1.5	3.0	4.5	2.5	14.0
Merrick	Cal	4.5	2.5	4.0	3.0	4.5	18.5	Gardner	Cal	4.5	2.0	2.5	2.0	3.0	14.0
Dionne	LA	2.0	3.5	4.5	3.0	5.0	18.0	Venasky	LA	5.0	1.5	1.5	5.0	1.0	14.0
McKechnie	Det	3.0	3.5	5.0	3.5	3.0	18.0	Westfall	NYI	3.5	2.0	1.5	4.0	2.5	13.5
Sittler	Tor	1.5	3.5	4.5	3.0	5.0	17.5	Boldirev	Chi	2.0	2.0	2.5	4.0	3.0	13.5
Sheppard	Bos	3.0	3.0	4.0	3.5	4.0	17.5	Hogaboam	Min	1.0	1.5	3.0	5.0	3.0	13.5
Young	Min	3.0	3.0	4.5	3.5	4.5	17.5	Bridgman	Phi	4.0	1.5	1.0	3.5	3.0	13.0
Unger	St. L	2.0	2.5	5.0	2.5	6.0	17.0	MacLeish	Phi	1.0	2.0	2.5	2.0	5.0	12.5
Lysiak	Atl	3.0	3.0	4.0	3.0	4.0	17.0	Hexall	Det	2.0	3.0	3.5	2.5	1.5	12.5
Apps	Pit	2.5	4.0	3.5	3.5	3.5	17.0	Stemkowski	NYR	4.5	2.0	1.5	2.5	2.0	12.5
Martin	Chi	3.5	2.5	3.5	4.5	3.5	17.0	Dillon	NYR	3.5	1.5	1.5	3.5	2.0	12.0
Sanderson	St.L	3.0	3.0	4.0	3.0	3.5	16.5	Schock	Pit	3.0	2.5	1.5	2.5	2.5	12.0
Goring	LA	3.5	2.5	3.0	4.5	3.0	16.5	Stanfield	Bu	4.0	2.0	1.0	4.0	1.0	12.0
Esposito	NYR	1.5	3.0	4.0	3.0	4.5	16.0	Ferguson	Tor	5.0	2.0	1.5	1.5	2.0	12.0
St. Sauveur	Atl	5.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	2.5	15.5	Lorentz	Bu	4.0	1.5	1.0	3.5	1.5	11.5
Bennett	Atl	3.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	3.5	15.5	Lalonde, B.	Van	2.5	2.5	2.0	2.0	2.5	11.5
Lemaire	Mon	5.0	2.5	2.0	1.5	4.5	15.5	Tkaczuk	NYR	4.5	2.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	10.5
Clement	Atl	5.0	2.0	2.0	3.5	3.0	15.5	Lalonde, R.	Was	5.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	1.0	10.0
Kindrachuk	Phi	3.5	3.0	2.0	3.5	3.0	15.0	Hudson	KC	4.0	1.5	1.0	1.5	1.5	9.5

DEFENSE—Overall Checking Ability-Plus & Minus Rating. Short Handed Appearances. PLAYMAKING—Assists Faceoffs-Ability to Initiate Attack & Prevent Offsides Skating-Passing. CLUTCH RATING—Important Goals & Assists-Power Play Appearances. SHOOTING ACCURACY—Shots on Goal. GOAL SCORING ABILITY. Goal Scoring Accuracy.

continued on page 85



PHIL MALONEY

Vancouver Canucks

Will Curt solve the goaltending riddle?

The Vancouver Canucks were 1970-71 expansionists with the Buffalo Sabres—just as the Atlanta Flames joined up with the New York Islanders in 1972-73. The club suffered a fitful start in the early years, but is now making rapid strides under General Manager-Coach Phil Maloney.

As it turned out, both the Canucks and the Sabres went under to the younger Islanders in the playoffs—but despite the two-game sweep, the Isles were severely tested by Vancouver. The scores didn't tell the story, as the 5-3 and 3-1 finals were struggles.

Maloney shored up his goalkeeping over the summer when he traded problem child Gary Smith to Minnesota for veteran Cesare Maniago. This is a definite plus for Vancouver in that Smith probably would have jumped to the W.H.A. anyway, and Maniago has shown that he still has some life left in his old limbs.

Former Ranger farmhand Curt Ridley should be the back-up, with Ken Lockett number three. Ridley played in both playoff losses after sparkling in the stretch with six wins and two ties in eight games.

Maloney went with him hoping he had another Ken Dryden on his hands. In 1970-71, Dryden played six games for Montreal in the regular season at the end, and then stepped in for

twenty straight playoff tussles on the way to the Cup.

The team from British Columbia didn't retain its Smythe Division title, losing out to the Hawks, but most believe Vancouver was better in 1975-76. They broke even, winning 32, losing 31, scoring 271 goals and allowing 272, while gaining 81 points in an 80 game schedule. The defense needs more consistency and the attack more punch.

That punch was added late in the season when Mike Walton, "Shakey" to Boston Bruin followers, jumped back to the NHL, after the demise of the Minnesota Fighting Saints. Walton, a top notch scorer and playmaker, has clauses in his contract that make it mandatory he mind his knitting. He was a plus to Vancouver in March and in the playoffs. Walton is being challenged, with his hockey career at the crossroads. He can be a big man in the Northwest.

In ten games in the regular season, Walton hit for eight goals and eight assists for 16 points. He can be the big gun Vancouver has always lacked.

Maloney insured his attack by signing Dennis Ververgaert and Don Lever, after getting John Gould to sign last year. Gould had been close to Cincinnati of the WHA last summer. Ververgaert led Vancouver with 37-34-71, and Lever checked in with

25-40-65. Unsung Chris Oddliefsen, second best faceoff man in the NHL behind Bobby Clarke, checked in with 62, and Gould had 59. Walton should top them all, if he plays his game.

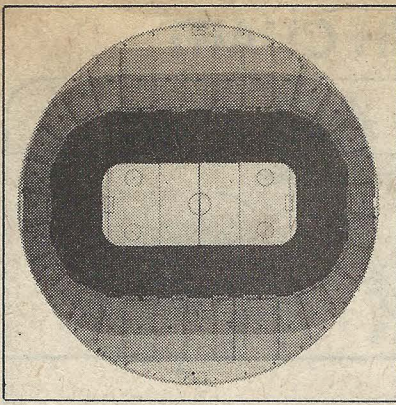
Rookie Rick Blight was just that at times to the opposition and should add to his 56 points. Tiny Bobby Lalonde, the smallest NHL player, is a sparkplug who ignites rallies. When Walton signed, Lalonde held his job as the third line center with former Vancouver star Andre Boudrias being benched. Boudrias is on the block, simply because the Canucks have built up to a point where he can't make the team. The development of youthful wingers Ron Sedlbauer and Gerry O'Flaherty helped, as did the utility work of old-pro Garry Monahan.

The defense is led by another unheard-of type, Dennis Kearns, who got 51 points from the blue line. Big Bobby Dailey got 39, and kept the other guys honest, along with bumper Harold Snepsts. Mike Robitaille has matured into a solid blue liner, Tracy Pratt is on the trading block.

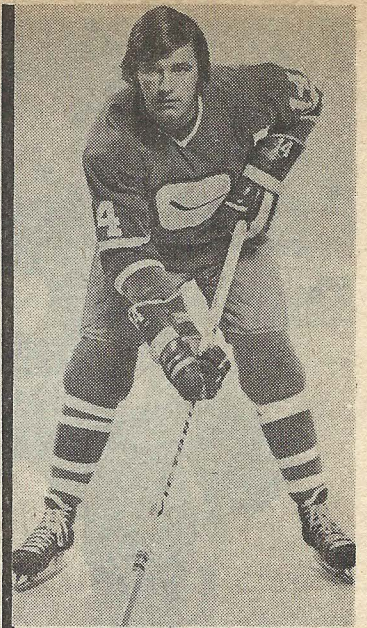
The Canucks chances of catching the Hawks for the Smythe title will lie in the battle between the two ex-Bruins, Orr and Walton. If Orr can't make it and Mike does, Vancouver could edge out Chicago.

PAST RECORD

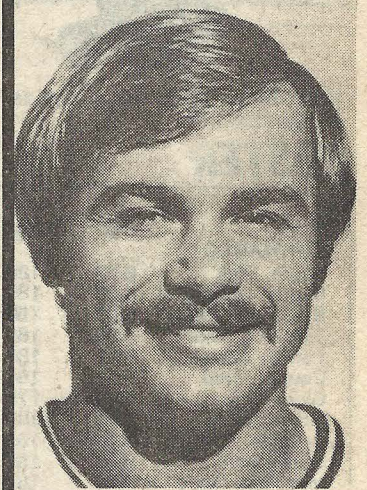
Year	W	L	T	Pts.	%	GF	GA	Plus or [Minus]	GF/ Game	GA/ Game	Year	Shts./ Game	Shtg. %	Power Play	Pen. Killed	Pen. Min./ Game	Finish	Playoff Result
70-71	24	46	8	56(12)	.359	229(7)	296(11)	[67](11)	2.94	3.79	70-71	28.6(13)	10.3(5)	16.4(10)	73.8(14)	17.6(1)	6E	—
71-72	20	50	8	48(14)	.308	203(12)	297(13)	[94](13)	2.60	3.81	71-72	29.4(10)	8.8(10)	18.4(9)	76.8(13)	14.0(4)	7E	—
72-73	22	47	9	53(14)	.340	233(12)	339(15)	[106](14)	2.99	4.35	72-73	29.7(12)	10.0(12)	16.7(10)	76.9(14)	12.0(4)	7E	—
73-74	24	43	11	59(14)	.378	224(12)	296(14)	[72](15)	2.87	3.79	73-74	28.2(13)	10.1(8)	19.7(7)	74.0(16)	12.1(6)	7E	—
74-75	38	32	10	86(9)	.538	271(8)	254(9)	17 (10)	3.39	3.18	74-75	30.4(10)	11.1(8)	20.5(8)	79.3(11)	12.0(16)	1S	L-QF
75-76	33	32	15	81(11)	.506	271(8)	272(9)	[1](9)	3.39	3.40	75-76	29.7(10)	11.4(8)	19.7(9)	75.6(13)	14.0(8)	2S	L-QF



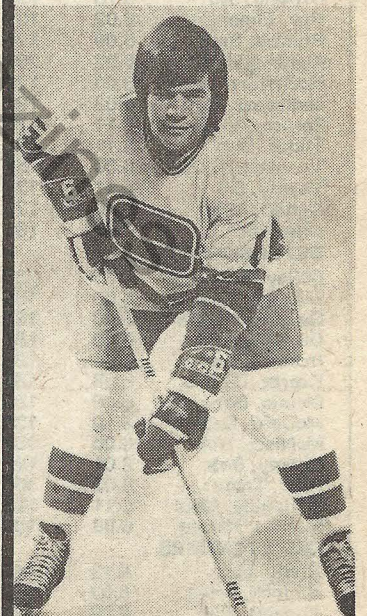
PACIFIC COLISEUM



Chris Oddleifson



Bobby Lalonde

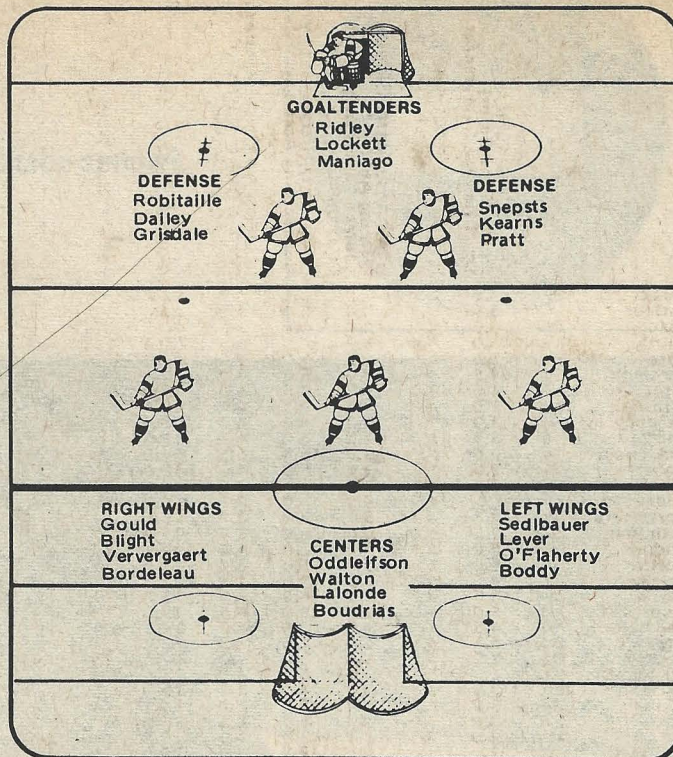


Dennis Kearns



Dennis Ververgaert led the Canucks in scoring last year with 37 goals and 71 points.

DEPTH CHART



Curt Ridley starts the season as Vancouver's number one goaltender

ROSTER

1976-77 VANCOUVER CANUCKS

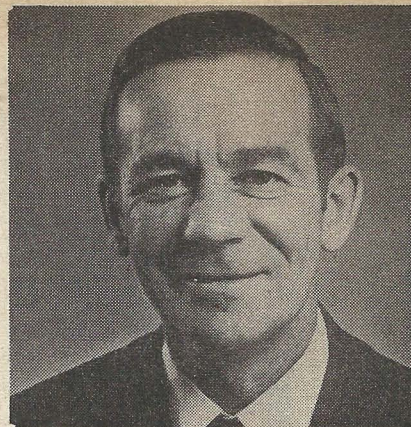
Player	Hgt.	Wgt.	Place of Birth	Date of Birth	1975-76 Club	G	A	Pts.
FORWARDS								
Blight, Rick	6.02	185	Portage La Prairie, Man.	October 17, 1955	Vancouver	25	31	56
Boddy, Gregg	6.00	185	Ponoka, Alberta	January 29, 1953	Vancouver-Tulsa	5	15	20
Bordeleau, Paulin	5.09	156	Noranda, Quebec	March 19, 1949	Vancouver-Tulsa	10	21	31
Boudrias, Andre	5.08	165	Montreal, Quebec	September 19, 1943	Vancouver	7	31	38
Ferner, Darryl	5.11	180	Regina, Saskatchewan	March 2, 1955	Kamloops Jrs	38	46	84
Gassoff, Brad	5.11	188	Quesnel, B.C.	November 13, 1955	Vancouver-Tulsa	36	28	64
Gloor, Dan	5.09	175	Mitchell, Ontario	December 4, 1952	Tulsa	23	48	71
Gould, John	6.00	185	Alliston, Ontario	April 11, 1949	Vancouver	32	27	59
Lalonde, Bob	5.05	155	Montreal, Quebec	March 27, 1951	Vancouver-Tulsa	17	38	55
Lever, Don	5.11	180	South Porcupine, Ontario	November 14, 1952	Vancouver	25	40	65
Monahan, Garry	6.00	185	Barrie, Ontario	October 20, 1946	Vancouver	16	17	33
Oddleifson, Chris	6.01	177	Brandon, Manitoba	September 7, 1950	Vancouver	16	46	62
O'Flaherty, Gerry	5.09	175	Pittsburgh, Pa.	August 31, 1950	Vancouver	20	18	38
Ostluno, Stu	5.10	173	Vancouver, B.C.	March 27, 1956	Michigan Tech	24	41	65
Ray, Elmer	6.02	197	Stoney Plain, Alberta	May 22, 1956	Calgary Jrs.	16	25	41
Rhiness, Brad	5.09	170	Huntsville, Ontario	November 6, 1956	Kingston Jrs.	52	60	112
Richardson, Glen	6.02	200	Barrie, Ontario	September 20, 1955	Vancouver-Tulsa	13	22	35
Rocheffort, Leon	6.00	175	Cap de Madeleine, Que.	May 4, 1939	Vancouver-Tulsa	25	43	68
Sedlbauer, Ron	6.03	195	Burlington, Ontario	October 22, 1954	Vancouver-Tulsa	20	14	34
Spruce, Andy	5.11	178	London, Ontario	April 17, 1954	Tulsa	29	45	75
Tudor, Rob	5.11	182	Cupar, Saskatchewan	June 39, 1956	Regina Jrs.	46	60	106
Vervgaert, Dennis	6.00	185	Hamilton, Ontario	March 30, 1953	Vancouver	37	34	71
Veysey, Sid	5.11	175	Woodstock, N.B.	July 3, 1955	Fort Wayne	36	51	87
Walton, Mike	5.10	175	Kirkland Lake, Ontario	January 3, 1945	Vancouver	8	8	16
Wiley, Jim	6.02	180	Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.	April 28, 1950	Vancouver-Tulsa	33	63	96
DEFENSEMEN								
Dailey, Bob	6.05	235	Kingston, Ontario	May 3, 1953	Vancouver	15	24	39
Durston, Rick	6.00	186	Penticton, B.C.	March 18, 1956	Victoria Jrs.	9	21	30
Gaudreault, Marc	6.00	180	Alma, Quebec	September 8, 1954	Fort Wayne	21	35	56
Grisdale, John	6.00	180	Toronto, Ontario	August 23, 1948	Vancouver	2	6	8
Ircandia, Len	6.01	180	Trail, B.C.	July 28, 1954	Kalamazoo-Tulsa	4	13	17
Kearns, Dennis	5.08	182	Kingston, Ontario	September 27, 1945	Vancouver	5	46	51
Manno, Bob	6.00	185	Niagara Falls, Ontario	October 31, 1956	St. Catharines Jrs.	9	54	63
McCord, Dennis	5.10	190	Chatham, Ontario	July 28, 1951	Tulsa-Fort Wayne	8	22	30
McNiece, Bob	6.00	180	New Westminster, B.C.	September 29, 1955	Fort Wayne	18	53	71
Murray, Bob	6.01	195	Burlington, Ontario	July 16, 1948	Vancouver	2	5	7
Pratt, Tracy	6.02	195	New York, New York	March 8, 1943	Vancouver	1	5	6
Robitaille, Mike	5.11	195	Midland, Ontario	February 12, 1948	Vancouver	8	19	27
Snepsts, Harold	6.03	195	Edmonton, Alberta	October 24, 1954	Vancouver	3	15	13
GOALTENDERS								
Brady, Dan	5.11	180	Canton, New York	August 25, 1950	Tulsa	1816	105	2
Bullock, Bruce	5.07	160	Toronto, Ontario	May 9, 1949	Tulsa-Beauce	2025	99	3
Lockett, Ken	6.00	170	Toronto, Ontario	August 30, 1947	Vancouver	1436	83	0
Ridley, Curt	6.00	190	Winnipeg, Manitoba	September 23, 1951	Vancouver-Tulsa	2279	98	3
Maniago, Cesare	6.03	195	Trail, B.C.	January 13, 1939	Minnesota	1704	151	2

WINGS		CHECKING-ABILITY Plus & Minus Rating Short Handed Appearances	SHOOTING ACCURACY Shots On Goal Skating	OVERALL TOUGHNESS Fighting Ability Courage-Corner Digging Determination	GOAL SCORING ABILITY Goal Scoring Accuracy	CLUTCH RATING-Important Goals & Assists- Power Play Appearances	OVERALL RATING	Left Or Right Wing
Barber	Phi	4.5	3.0	4.5	5.0	4.5	21.5	LW
Lafleur	Mon	3.5	3.0	3.5	3.5	3.5	21.0	RW
Leach	Phi	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	20.5	RW
Shutt	Mon	3.5	3.0	3.5	3.5	3.5	20.5	LW
Gare	Buf	3.5	4.0	4.5	4.5	4.5	20.0	RW
Bergeron	Det	4.5	4.0	4.5	4.5	4.5	20.0	RW
Gillies	NYI	4.5	3.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	19.0	LW
Gilbert	NYR	2.0	3.0	3.5	3.5	3.5	18.5	RW
Maloney	Det	3.0	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.0	18.5	LW
Thompson	Tor	3.0	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.0	18.5	LW
McDonald	Tor	2.0	3.0	3.5	4.5	4.5	18.5	RW
Robert	Buf	2.0	3.0	3.5	4.5	4.5	18.0	RW
Schmautz	Bos	3.5	2.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	18.0	RW
Cournoyer	Mon	1.0	2.5	4.5	4.5	4.5	18.0	RW
Dornhoefer	Phi	2.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	18.0	RW
Cashman	Bos	2.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	18.0	LW
Hodge	NYR	1.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	17.5	RW
Martin	Buf	1.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	17.5	LW
Corrigan	LA	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	17.5	RW
Harris	NYI	4.4	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	17.5	RW
Pronovost	Pit	2.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	17.5	RW
MacDonald	Pit	2.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	17.5	LW
Bucyk	Bos	2.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	17.0	LW
MacAdam	Cal	2.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	17.0	LW
Palemont	KC	2.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	17.0	LW
Hatfield	Pit	2.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	17.0	LW
O'Reilly	Bos	2.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	16.5	RW
Kozak	LA	2.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	16.5	RW
Jarry	Min	2.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	16.5	LW
Lambert	Mon	2.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	16.5	LW
Howatt	NYI	2.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	16.5	LW
Vickers	NYR	1.5	4.4	4.5	4.5	4.5	16.5	LW
Koroll	Chi	4.5	3.0	3.5	3.5	3.5	16.5	RW
Murdoch	Cal	3.5	3.0	3.5	3.5	3.5	16.0	RW
Arnason	KC	3.5	3.0	3.5	3.5	3.5	16.0	RW
Goldsworthy	Min	3.5	3.0	3.5	3.5	3.5	16.0	RW
Gould	Van	3.5	3.0	3.5	3.5	3.5	16.0	RW

WINGS		CHECKING-ABILITY Plus & Minus Rating Short Handed Appearances	SHOOTING ACCURACY Shots On Goal Skating	OVERALL TOUGHNESS Fighting Ability Courage-Corner Digging Determination	GOAL SCORING ABILITY Goal Scoring Accuracy	CLUTCH RATING-Important Goals & Assists- Power Play Appearances	OVERALL RATING	Left Or Right Wing
Meehan	Was	5.0	3.5	1.5	2.5	3.5	16.0	LW
White	Was	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	16.0	LW
Ververgaert	Van	1.0	4.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	16.0	RW
Ramsay	Buf	4.5	4.0	2.5	2.5	2.5	16.0	RW
Potvin, J.	NYI	3.5	2.0	4.0	3.0	3.0	16.0	RW
Nystrom	NYI	3.5	2.5	4.5	3.0	3.0	16.0	RW
Saleski	Phi	4.0	1.5	4.0	4.0	2.0	15.5	RW
Schultz	Phi	5.0	3.5	5.0	1.0	1.0	15.5	LW
Kelly, B.	Pit	2.5	3.0	5.0	1.5	1.5	15.5	LW
Butler	St. L	3.0	2.0	4.5	3.5	3.0	15.5	RW
Blight	Van	3.5	2.5	2.5	4.0	3.0	15.5	RW
Bailey	Was	3.5	2.0	4.5	2.5	3.0	15.5	LW
Murphy	LA	2.0	3.0	3.5	3.5	3.5	15.5	LW
Vail	Atl	2.5	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	15.5	RW
Sabourin	Cal	3.5	2.5	2.5	3.0	3.0	14.5	LW
Libett	Det	3.0	1.5	4.0	4.0	2.0	14.5	RW
Hicke	Min	2.5	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	14.5	LW
MacMillan	St.L	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	14.5	LW
Larose	St.L	4.0	1.0	3.5	2.5	2.5	14.5	RW
Marks	Chi	4.0	3.0	3.0	2.5	2.0	14.5	LW
Flett	Atl	3.5	3.0	2.5	3.0	2.0	14.0	RW
Marcotte	Bos	3.5	4.0	2.5	2.0	2.0	14.0	LW
McNab	Buf	4.0	4.5	1.5	1.5	2.5	14.0	RW
Parise	NYI	2.0	3.5	4.0	2.5	2.0	14.0	LW
Rota	Chi	3.0	2.0	4.0	1.5	1.5	14.0	LW
Hull	Chi	1.0	2.5	2.5	4.5	3.5	13.5	LW
Charron	KC	1.0	2.5	1.0	4.0	5.0	13.5	LW
Middleton	Bos	2.5	3.5	1.5	3.0	3.5	13.5	RW
Redmond	Chi	1.5	1.5	2.5	4.5	3.5	13.5	LW
Gainey	Mon	5.0	1.5	3.5	2.5	1.0	13.5	LW
Graves	Atl	3.5	2.5	1.5	3.0	2.5	13.0	RW
Talafous	Min	3.0	3.0	1.5	2.0	3.5	13.0	RW
Monahan	Was	3.0	2.5	2.5	2.0	3.0	13.0	RW
Siros	Was	3.5	1.5	1.5	3.5	3.0	13.0	LW
Nevin	LA	4.5	2.0	1.5	3.0	3.0	12.5	RW
Kehoe	Pit	1.0	3.5	1.0	3.5	3.5	12.5	RW

DEFENSE		DEFENSIVE ABILITIES Body Checking-Stick Checking-Shot Blocking Plus & Minus Rating	OVERALL TOUGHNESS Fighting Ability Corner Digging-Clearing Out In Front Of Goal	PLAYMAKING ABILITY Skating-Passing Ability To Initiate Offensive Attack	SHOOTING & GOAL SCORING Ability-Shots on Goal-Scoring Accuracy	CLUTCH RATING Important Goals & Assists Power Play Appearances Shooting Accuracy	OVERALL RATING
Orr	Chi	3.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	23.0
Park	Bos	4.5	4.0	4.0	5.0	5.0	22.0
Potvin, D.	NYI	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.5	5.0	21.5
LaPointe, G.	Mon	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.5	5.0	20.5
Tallon	Chi	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.5	5.0	20.0
Dupont	Phi	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.5	5.0	20.0
Vadnais	NYR	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.5	5.0	19.5
Stackhouse	Pit	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.5	5.0	19.5
Russell	Chi	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.5	5.0	19.0
Bergman	KC	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.5	5.0	18.5
Salming	Tor	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.5	5.0	18.5
Turnbull	Tor	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.5	5.0	18.5
Guevremont	Buf	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.5	5.0	18.0
Korab	Chi	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.5	5.0	18.0
Redmond	Chi	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.5	5.0	18.0
LaPointe	Det	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	5.0	18.0
Goodenough	Phi	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.5	5.0	18.0
Dailey	Van	2.5	4.0	4.0	4.5	5.0	18.0
Hampton	Cal	3.0	3.5	3.5	4.5	5.0	17.5
Murdoch	LA	4.0	3.5	3.5	3.5	5.0	17.5
Robinson	Mon	4.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	5.0	17.5
Neely	Tor	5.0	3.5	3.5	3.5	5.0	17.5
Manery	Atl	4.5	3.0	3.5	4.0	5.0	17.0
Schoenfeld	Buf	3.5	4.5	4.0	3.0	5.0	17.0
Savard	Mon	3.5	4.0	4.0	3.5	5.0	17.0
Van Boxmeer	Mon	5.0	3.5	4.0	3.5	5.0	17.0
Kea	Atl	4.5	3.5	4.0	3.5	5.0	16.5
McKenney	Tor	3.5	1.5	3.5	4.0	5.0	16.5
Harper	Det	4.0	3.0	3.5	3.5	5.0	16.5
Gibbs	Atl	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.0	5.0	16.0
Pesut	Cal	5.0	3.5	3.5	2.5	5.0	16.0
Durbano	KC	4.0	5.0	3.5	2.5	5.0	16.0
Hart	NYI	4.5	3.5	3.5	2.5	5.0	16.0
Bladon	Phi	3.0	3.0	3.5	2.5	5.0	16.0
Labre	Was	3.5	4.0	3.5	3.5	5.0	16.0
Carriere	Atl	4.0	3.5	3.5	3.0	5.0	15.5

DEFENSE		DEFENSIVE ABILITIES Body Checking-Stick Checking-Shot Blocking Plus & Minus Rating	OVERALL TOUGHNESS Fighting Ability Corner Digging-Clearing Out In Front Of Goal	PLAYMAKING ABILITY Skating-Passing Ability To Initiate Offensive Attack	SHOOTING & GOAL SCORING Ability-Shots on Goal-Scoring Accuracy	CLUTCH RATING Important Goals & Assists Power Play Appearances Shooting Accuracy	OVERALL RATING
Stewart	Cal	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	15.5
Hutchison	LA	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	15.5
O'Brien	Min	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	15.5
Marotte	NYR	3.5	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	15.5
Campbell	Pit	3.5	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	15.5
Kearns	Van	2.5	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	15.5
Robitaille	Van	3.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	15.5
Joly	Was	3.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	15.5
Smith	Bos	2.5	3.5	3.5	4.0	4.0	15.0
Sims	Bos	5.0	3.0	3.0	4.0	4.0	15.0
Frig	Cal	4.5	3.0	3.0	4.0	4.0	15.0
Watson	Det	4.0	5.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	15.0
Komadowski	LA	4.0	4.5	4.0	4.0	4.0	15.0
Bialowas	Min	3.5	1.5	3.5	4.0	4.0	15.0
Greschner	NYR	3.0	3.5	3.5	4.0	4.0	15.0
Watson, Jim	Phi	3.5	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.0	15.0
Hess	St. L	2.5	2.5	3.5	4.0	4.0	15.0
Gassoff	St. L	3.5	5.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	15.0
Grisdale	Van	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	15.0
Lynch	Was	3.5	3.0	3.5	4.0	4.0	15.0
Christie	Cal	3.0	4.5	4.5	4.0	4.0	14.5
Magnuson	Chi	4.5	4.5	1.5	4.0	4.0	14.5
Lagace	KC	4.0	4.0	1.5	2.5	4.5	14.5
Hicks	Min	4.0	2.5	2.0	3.0	4.5	14.5
McIlhargey	Phi	5.0	5.0	1.0	2.0	4.5	14.5
Snepsts	Van	3.5	4.0	2.0	2.5	4.5	14.5
Hamel	Det	3.5	4.0	1.5	2.5	4.5	14.5
Quinn	Atl	4.5	4.0	1.5	2.0	4.0	14.0
Nielsen	Cal	3.0	3.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	14.0
Johnson	KC	3.5	4.0	1.5	2.5	4.0	14.0
DeMarco	LA	5.0	1.0	2.0	3.5	4.0	14.0
Lewis	NYI	4.5	2.5	2.5	2.0	4.0	14.0
Burrows	Pit	3.5	2.0	2.5	3.5	4.0	14.0
Wilkins	Pit	3.0	4.0	3.0	1.5	4.0	14.0
Plager, Barc	St.L	4.0	4.0	1.5	2.5	4.0	14.0



EMILE FRANCIS

St. Louis Blues

New regime on the Mississippi

If Emile Francis could have brought Jean Ratelle and Brad Park with him to St. Louis, the Blues would be in great shape. However, The Cat did bring with him the second winningest mark in regular season NHL history as he takes charge of the St. Louis operation, with the title of Vice President-General Manager-Coach.

He wanted to coach, and in fact, insisted on it, after being contacted as general manager material. It will be interesting to see if Sid Solomon III leaves Francis alone when the Blues have a dry spell. Scotty Bowman couldn't get along with Sid, and neither could Lou Angotti, Jean Guy Talbot, Garry Young, and a host of others. Francis had his advance man, Denis Ball in the Mound City for a year and a half, ahead of his unexpected mid-season departure from the Rangers.

The sacking of Leo Boivin, who did a great job after taking over from Young in mid season in 1975-76, didn't sit well in St. Louis. It will add to the pressure facing the Cat. But Francis always thrived on pressure—and he still wants to coach a Cup winner.

The Blues are far from that, but they have a main ingredient in second-year goaler Ed Staniowski, who starred for St. Louis in a tough three game series with Buffalo, allowing

only seven goals. Two of the games were in Buffalo.

With Eddie Johnston as the backup, the Blues chaotic goaling situation of recent years has stabilized. Yves Belanger is in the wings, and happily, for the Blues, Gilles Gratton and his problems are long gone.

The Blues finished third in the Smythe Division and realistically are in about the same slot. They scored 269 goals and allowed 290, finishing 8 games under .500. The defense must get better. That's where Messrs. Staniowski and Johnston come in, but it's also up to ace penalty-killers Chuck Lefley and Derek Sanderson and the entire defense.

That defense was spiritually shaken last year when Boivin stripped the captaincy from Barclay Plager. The Plager freres, Bob and Barclay, have run the Blues dressing room from the first season—and they were beating on super-star prospect Bob Hess. Hess is the man who can get the puck out and who can make the Blues power play go in the future, if he develops according to plan. He is only 21, and will be in his third season in the NHL.

Bruce Affleck is another young defender, in his sophomore season, who holds the Blues' future in his hands. The addition of the veteran Rick Smith, former Bruin and Seal,

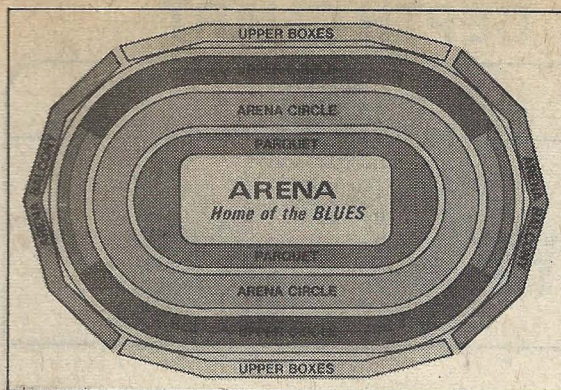
from the defunct Minnesota Fighting Saints helped the Blues and enabled Boivin to make the move on the Plagers.

On the attack, Lefley outpointed Garry Unger, 85 points to 83, and outscored him with 43 goals to 39. Sanderson checked in third with 67 points. After that, it fell off with third center Bob MacMillan notching 52, and former Western Division super star Red Berenson with 47. With Unger solid, Sanderson still a young veteran, but the other centers somewhat shaky, Francis drafted Bernie Federko from Saskatoon of the WCHL. He'll get a long look, but the Cat usually sticks with his vets when he is in a must-win situation. Larry Patey, also in the center act, hopes to escape from the shadow of a bad trade in which Wayne Merrick went to the Seals.

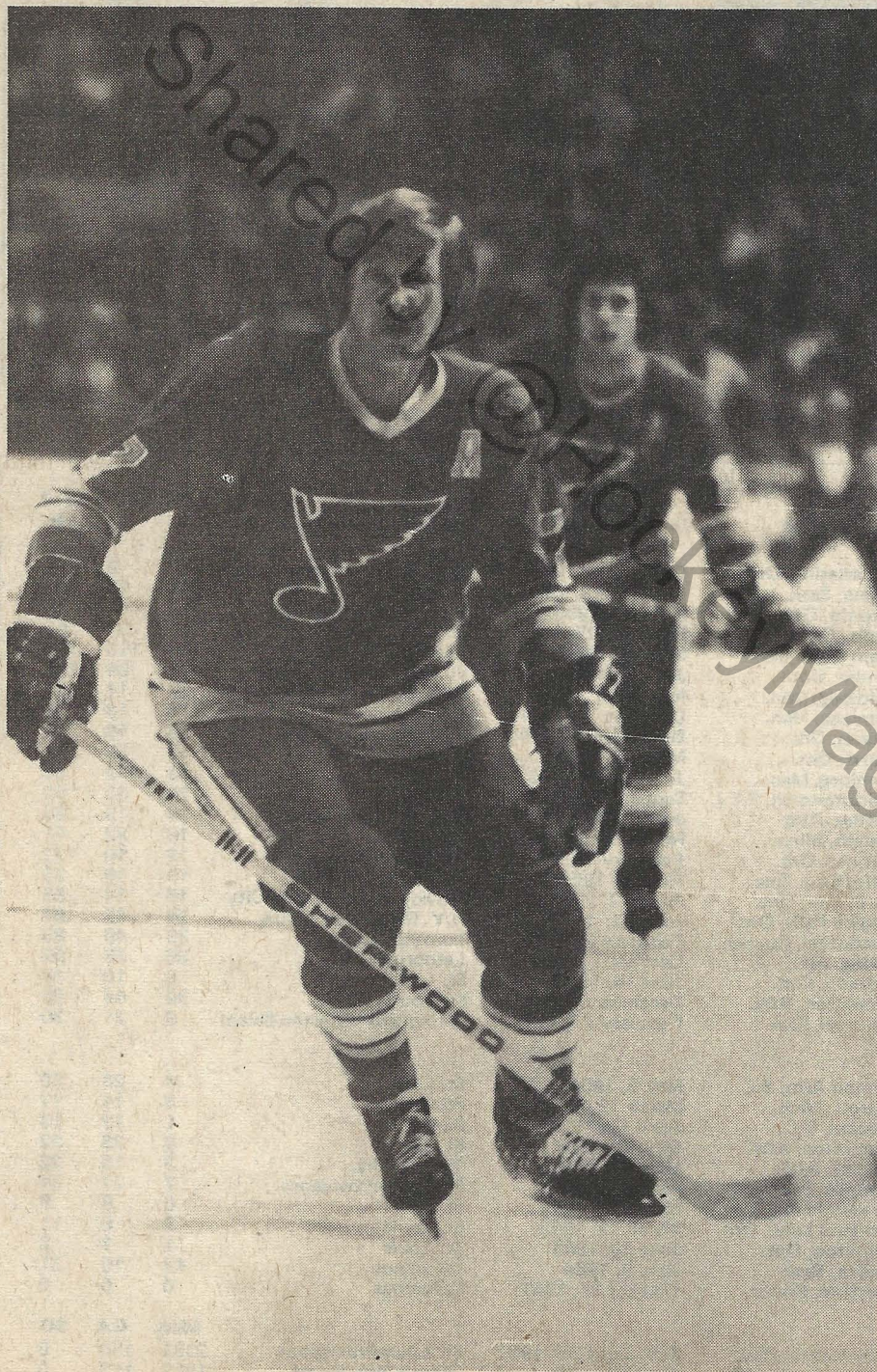
Make no mistake that Francis is on the spot. His reputation was damaged by the ending of the New York fiasco. Despite a piece of the action at St. Louis in the form of stock, Francis must get the Blues off well and into the playoffs. Maybe former Rangers Ted Irvine and Jerry Butler will pull more weight this year for their old boss. It is to be hoped that the Cat leaves Turk Sanderson alone. They didn't hit it off well in New York, and Francis traded him. That would be a big mistake, if repeated.

PAST RECORD

Year	W	L	T	Pts.	%	GF	GA	Plus or [Minus]	GF/ Game	GA/ Game	Year	Shts./ Game	Shtg. %	Power Play	Pen. Killed	Pen. Min./ Game	Finish	Playoff Result
67-68	27	31	16	70(8)	.473	177(10)	191(5)	[14](8)	2.39	2.58	67-68	30.0(8)	8.0(12)	17.0(6)	84.1(4)	10.7(4)	3W	L-F
68-69	37	25	14	88(4)	.579	204(8)	157(1)	47(3)	2.68	2.07	68-69	28.7(11)	9.4(7)	15.2(11)	81.4(10)	11.0(7)	1W	L-F
69-70	37	27	12	86(6)	.566	224(6)	179(2)	45(5)	2.95	2.36	69-70	31.4(8)	9.4(5)	25.1(2)	84.6(3)	11.5(10)	1W	L-F
70-71	34	25	19	87(5)	.551	223(8)	208(4)	15(6)	2.86	2.67	70-71	30.9(10)	9.2(9)	17.9(8)	82.8(7)	14.0(7)	2W	L-QF
71-72	28	39	11	67(8)	.429	208(10)	247(8)	[39](10)	2.67	3.17	71-72	32.7(4)	8.1(14)	14.1(13)	76.8(12)	14.7(2)	3W	L-SF
72-73	32	34	12	76(9)	.487	233(11)	251(10)	[18](11)	2.99	3.22	72-73	34.0(3)	8.7(15)	14.7(14)	81.2(9)	15.3(2)	4W	L-QF
73-74	26	40	12	64(12)	.410	206(14)	248(9)	[42](12)	2.64	3.18	73-74	28.9(12)	9.1(14)	14.2(14)	82.1(4)	14.7(2)	6W	—
74-75	35	31	14	84(10)	.525	269(9)	267(10)	2(12)	3.36	3.34	74-75	31.2(8)	10.8(11)	17.6(14)	77.1(13)	15.9(2)	2S	L-PR
75-76	29	37	14	72(12)	.450	260(9)	290(12)	[30](13)	3.25	3.63	75-76	29.6(11)	11.0(10)	18.5(13)	73.9(16)	15.9(5)	3S	L-QF



ST. LOUIS ARENA



Garry Unger is the N.H.L.'s all-time iron-man.



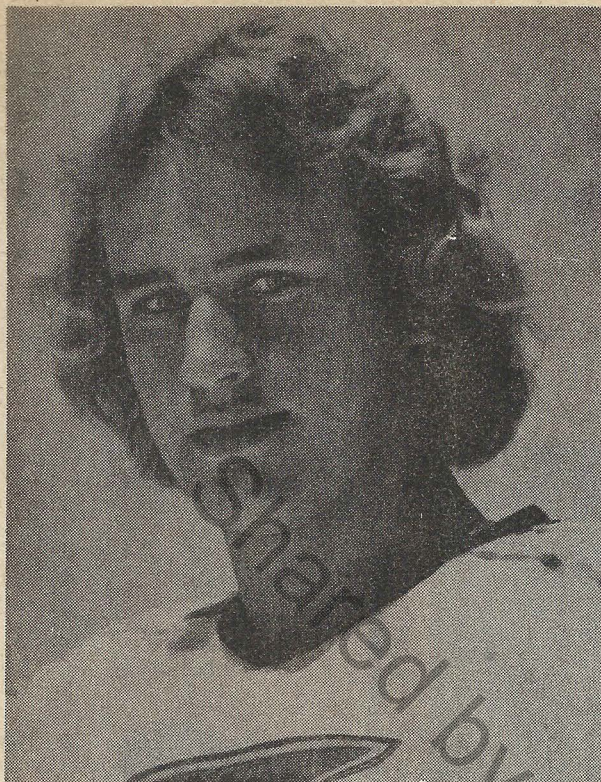
Chuck Lefley



Red Berenson

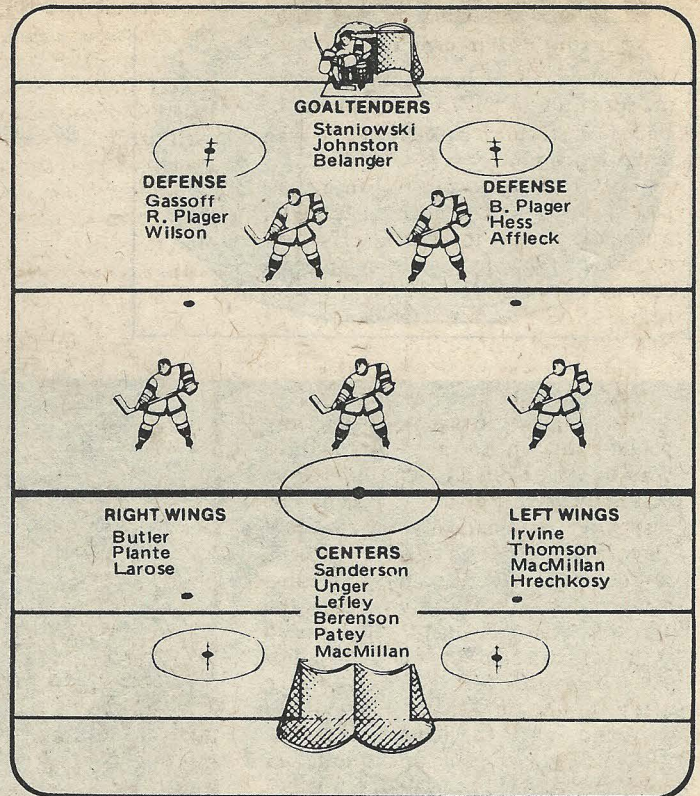


Bob Hess



Ed Staniowski is perhaps the league's top goaltender

DEPTH CHART



ROSTER

1976-77 ST. LOUIS BLUES

1976-77 ST. LOUIS BLUES						1975-76 Record		
Player	Hgt.	Wgt.	Place of Birth	Date of Birth	1975-76 Club	G	A	Pts.
FORWARDS								
Babin, Mitch	6.02	190	Kapuskasing, Ont.	December 1, 1954	St. Louis-Providence	8	9	17
Berenson, Red	6.00	195	Regina, Sask.	December 8, 1939	St. Louis	20	27	47
Bourbonnais, Rick	6.00	186	Toronto, Ont.	April 20, 1955	St. Louis-Providence	18	17	36
Butler, Jerry	6.00	170	Sarnia, Ont.	February 27, 1951	St. Louis	17	24	41
Federko, Bernie	6.00	173	Foam Lake, Sask.	May 12, 1956	Saskatoon Jrs.	72	115	187
Gustafson, Jim	5.10	165	Kenora, Ont.	July 21, 1955	Victoria Jrs.	46	94	140
Hrechkosy, Dave	6.02	210	Winnipeg, Man.	November 1, 1951	Calif.-St. Louis-Salt Lake City	20	11	31
Irvine, Ted	6.02	195	Winnipeg, Man.	December 8, 1944	St. Louis	10	13	23
Kuntz, Murray	5.10	178	Ottawa, Ont.	December 19, 1945	Springfield-Baltimore	28	18	46
Larose, Claude	6.00	170	Hearst, Ont.	March 2, 1942	St. Louis	13	25	38
Lefley, Chuck	6.02	185	Winnipeg, Man.	January 20, 1950	St. Louis	43	42	85
MacMillan, Bob	5.10	175	Charlottetown, P.E.I.	September 3, 1952	St. Louis	20	32	52
Ogilvie, Brian	5.11	180	Stettler, Alta.	January 30, 1952	St. Louis-Providence	18	19	37
Palazzari, Doug	5.05	170	Eveleth, Minn.	November 3, 1952	Providence	19	32	51
Patey, Larry	6.01	185	Toronto, Ont.	February 17, 1953	California-St. Louis	12	10	22
Plante, Pierre	6.01	180	Valleyfield, Que.	May 14, 1951	St. Louis	14	19	33
Richardson, Ken	5.10	160	North Bay, Ont.	April 12, 1951	Providence-Oklahoma City	19	34	53
Sanderson, Derek	6.00	175	Niagara Falls, Ont.	June 16, 1946	N.Y. Rangers-St. Louis	24	43	67
Smrke, John	5.11	193	Chicoutimi, Quebec	February 25, 1956	Toronto Jrs.	39	46	85
Sutter, Brian	5.11	170	Viking, Alt.	October 7, 1956	Lethbridge Jrs.	36	56	92
Thomson, Floyd	6.00	190	Sudbury, Ont.	June 14, 1949	St. Louis	8	10	18
Unger, Garry	5.11	170	Edmonton, Alta.	December 7, 1947	St. Louis	39	44	83
Wiseman, Wes	6.01	190	Montreal, Que.	February 27, 1953	Springfield-Winston-Salem	9	21	30
DEFENSEMEN								
Affleck, Bruce	6.00	170	Salmon Arm, B.C.	May 5, 1954	St. Louis	4	26	30
Buynak, Gordon	6.01	180	Detroit, Mich.	March 19, 1954	Providence	3	14	17
Gassoff, Bob	5.10	190	Quesnel, B.C.	April 17, 1953	St. Louis	1	12	13
Hess, Bob	5.11	175	Edmonton, Alta.	May 19, 1955	St. Louis	9	23	32
Kirkpatrick, Jim	6.00	191	Calgary, Alta.	May 29, 1956	Toronto Jrs.	3	19	22
Masters, Jamie	6.01	190	Toronto, Ont	April 14, 1955	St. Louis-Providence	7	27	34
Plager, Barclay	6.11	175	Kirkland Lake, Ont.	March 26, 1941	St. Louis	0	8	8
Plager, Bob	5.11	195	Kirkland Lake, Ont	March 11, 1943	St. Louis	3	8	11
Smith, Rick	5.11	190	Hamilton, Ont.	June 29, 1948	St. Louis	1	7	8
Thompson Mike	6.02	204	Regina, Sask.	June 3, 1954	Columbus	12	19	31
Tower, George	6.02	185	Hartford, Conn.	October 31, 1951	Columbus	0	0	0
GOALTENDERS						Mins.	GA	SO
Belanger, Yves	5.11	170	Baiecomeau, Que.	September 30, 1952	St. Louis-Providence	2383	150	0
Grant, Doug	6.01	200	Corner Brook, Nfld.	July 27, 1948	Detroit-New Haven	1512	103	0
Johnston, Eddie	6.00	190	Montreal, Que.	November 24, 1935	St. Louis	2152	130	1
Staniowski, Ed	5.09	170	Moose Jaw, Sask.	July 7, 1955	St. Louis-Providence	2329	141	0

VIOLENCE

cont'd from page 15

shall report all such infractions to the president who shall have full power to impose such further penalty as he shall deem appropriate."

The following rule change was passed by a 10-7 majority. However, for a rule change to become effective, it must pass by a three-quarters majority. Because it didn't it now goes before the Board of Governors for final approval or rejection.

Rule 29—Misconduct Penalties:

Add new rule 29 (f) as follows:

"In regular League games, any player who incurs a total of three Game Misconduct and/or Gross Misconduct penalties shall be suspended automatically for the next playoff game of his team. For each subsequent game misconduct or gross misconduct penalty during the playoffs, the automatic suspension shall be increased by one game. For each suspension of a player during playoffs, his club shall be fined one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

(NOTE) Any game misconduct or gross misconduct penalty for which a player has been assessed supplementary discipline in the form of game suspension(s) by the President shall not be taken into account when calculating the total number of offenses under this subsection.

The automatic suspensions incurred under this subsection in respect to League games shall have no effect with respect to violations during playoff games.

There were several "housekeeping" changes made, as usual, to the rules. The most important ones, adopted during last season, are repeated here because they do not appear in the 1975-76 rule book.

Rule 45—Board-checking

Add following rule as 45(b):

"When a major penalty is imposed under this rule for a foul resulting in injury to the face or head of an opponent, an automatic fine of \$50 shall be imposed."

Rule 66(b)—Leaving Players' or Penalty Benches:

Add to rule 66 (b) the following underlined section:

For violation of this rule a double-minor penalty shall be imposed on the player of the team who was first to leave the players' or penalty benches during the altercation. If players of both teams leave their respective benches at the same time, the first identifiable player of each team to do so shall incur a double minor penalty. A game misconduct penalty shall also be imposed on any player who is penalized under this sub-section and

the club shall incur a fine of \$1,000 for the first such incident, \$3,000 for the second and \$5,000 for the third and subsequent such incident.

In reference to the above change, Rule 66 (e) also has the added clause that the penalties referred to in 66 (b) shall apply to exhibition games and that any suspensions in this rule during exhibition games shall be served during the next regular League game if required.

Team Penalties

Final Statistics

	GP	MINS	AVG
Philadelphia.....	80	1980	24.8
Detroit.....	80	1922	24.0
Toronto.....	80	1368	17.1
Islanders.....	80	1277	16.0
St. Louis.....	80	1274	15.9
Boston.....	80	1195	14.9
Minnesota.....	80	1191	14.9
Vancouver.....	80	1122	14.0
California.....	80	1058	13.2
Los Angeles.....	80	1022	12.8
Pittsburgh.....	80	1004	12.6
Kansas City.....	80	984	12.3
Montreal.....	80	977	12.2
Washington.....	80	951	11.9
Buffalo.....	80	943	11.8
Chicago.....	80	944	11.8
Atlanta.....	80	928	11.6
Rangers.....	80	911	11.4

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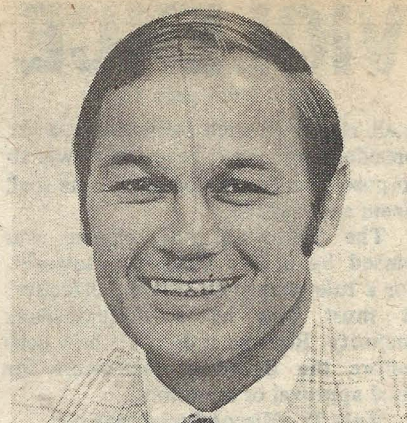
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TED HARRIS

Minnesota North Stars

North Stars try Jensen and Ericksson

Once more in a dogfight with the W.H.A. for fan support, the North Stars desperately need to put together some kind of representative squad. Minnesota progressed last year under coach Ted Harris, but has a way to go.

They made a dramatic change at the top when they promoted Walter Bush Jr., to Chairman of the Board and elected Gordon Ritz as their new president. Bush had been the only president in the history of the Norstars.

Bush had even cut his own salary last year, when the WHA team and a poor North Star squad cut heavily into the gate. New coach Ted Harris got things organized in the second half of the season, but Minnesota still scored only 195 goals and had 303 scored against them. They were 33 games under .500.

No Minnesota player reached the thirty goal level, with their leading point makers, Bill Hogaboam and Tim Young both having 51 points. Bill Goldsworthy, a gunner of repute, who once got 48 goals, had half that amount. Young and Dean Talafous each had 18 goals, with Hogaboam's 28 leading the way.

Late in the season Minnesota signed Steve Jensen, a tough wing from the 1976 U.S. Olympic squad. Jensen did a good job, with his

toughness in the corners showing the way for his teammates. He can play it rough, also, and did scrap his way to 7 goals and 6 assists in 19 games.

The North Stars signed two other young men, who are their hope for a future. Number one draft, and third overall in the NHL selections, was 5-11, 190lb. center Glen Sharpley, who scored 60 goals and 74 assists for Hull in the Quebec Major Junior League. The other was Swedish star Roland Ericksson, a six foot three inch center who caught the North Stars eyes when he starred at the World Tournament in Poland last April.

Minnesota is still trying to sign their number one draft of a year ago, defenseman Bryan Maxwell, now owned by the cross-town rival St. Paul W.H.A. sextet. Maxwell played with Cleveland last year.

One new face in the Minnesota lineup will be goaltender Gary Smith, late of the Vancouver Canucks. Smith was obtained in August for veteran Cesare Maniago, who had been a North Star since day one of the franchise. Both goaltenders had fallen in disfavor with their respective managements, and a chance of scenery might help.

Young Peter LoPresti will be the other man in the pipes. Pete worked

34 games for the North Stars in 1975-76, and represented the United States in the World Tournament in September. His goals-against average stood at 4.13 with a poor defensive team last year, but that must drop significantly if he is to make it in the N.H.L.

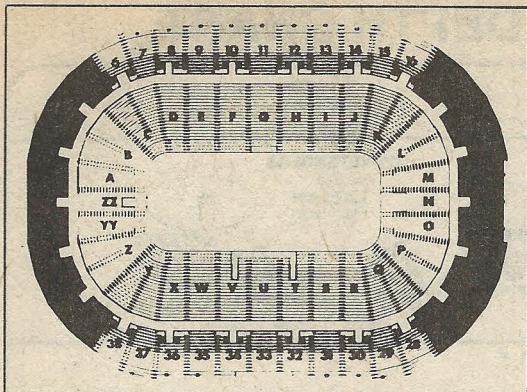
General Manager Jack Gordon has accomplished his objective in clearing out high priced fat cat stars, who were signed to multiyear pacts by his predecessors Wren Blair. But, in so doing, Gordon most likely reduced the ability quotient on the squad. J. P. Parise and Jude Drouin of the Islanders are better than Ernie Hicke and Craig Cameron, even though Hicke had a good year with 23 goals and 42 points. Most likely, Parise and Drouin would have continued to play lethargically in Minnesota, whereas they have turned on in the magical Islander situation.

In a like manner, Barry Gibbs is a better defenseman than any currently wearing the North Stars colors.

Gibbs might be the best on Atlanta. He is superior to Dwight Bialowas, Dennis O'Brien, Fred Barrett, Tom Reid, and Doug Hicks. But that is the price a team sometimes pays when it starts over.

PAST RECORD

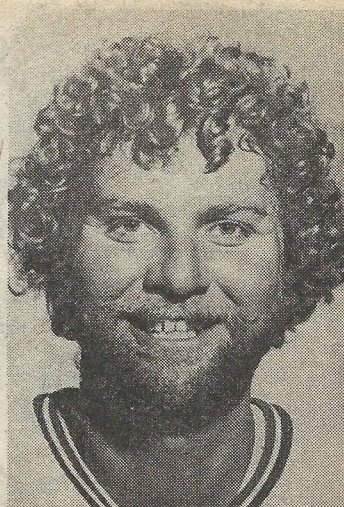
Year	W	L	T	Pts.	%	GF	GA	Plus or [Minus]	GF/ Game	GA/ Game	Year	Shts./ Game	Shtg. %	Power Play	Pen. Killed	Pen. Min./ Game	Finish	Playoff Result
67-68	27	32	15	69(9)	.466	191(9)	226(11)	[35](11)	2.58	3.05	67-68	28.6(10)	9.0(7)	21.1(2)	86.6(2)	10.0(7)	4W	L-SF
68-69	18	43	15	51(11)	.336	189(10)	270(12)	[81](12)	2.49	3.55	68-69	30.8(9)	8.1(9)	19.1(4)	83.5(6)	11.3(5)	6W	—
69-70	19	35	22	60(9)	.395	224(7)	257(11)	[33](9)	2.95	3.38	69-70	30.8(10)	9.6(3)	20.8(4)	77.2(11)	13.3(4)	3W	L-QF
70-71	28	34	16	72(8)	.462	191(14)	223(7)	[32](9)	2.45	2.86	70-71	30.9(10)	7.9(14)	14.7(13)	79.5(10)	11.5(13)	4W	L-SF
71-72	37	29	12	86(5)	.551	212(8)	191(2)	21 (5)	2.72	2.45	71-72	31.0(8)	8.7(11)	20.2(5)	82.3(7)	10.9(9)	2W	L-QF
72-73	37	30	11	85(7)	.545	254(9)	230(5)	24 (7)	3.26	2.95	72-73	31.6(10)	10.3(6)	15.6(13)	77.7(13)	11.3(9)	3W	L-QF
73-74	23	38	17	63(13)	.404	235(10)	275(13)	[40](11)	3.01	3.53	73-74	31.6(5)	9.5(13)	17.9(10)	79.9(10)	10.5(12)	7W	—
74-75	23	50	7	53(15)	.331	221(15)	341(17)	[120](16)	2.76	4.26	74-75	27.5(16)	10.0(15)	15.7(15)	73.2(17)	13.8(9)	4S	—
75-76	20	53	7	47(16)	.294	195(17)	303(14)	[108](16)	2.44	3.79	75-76	24.6(17)	9.9(17)	14.5(17)	73.5(17)	14.9(17)	4S	—



MET CENTER



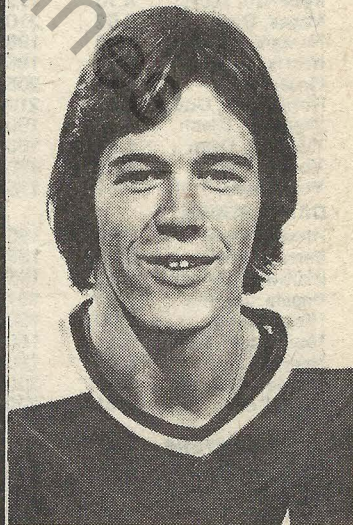
Pete LoPresti's development is a key to the North Stars' future.



Gary Smith



Dean Talafous

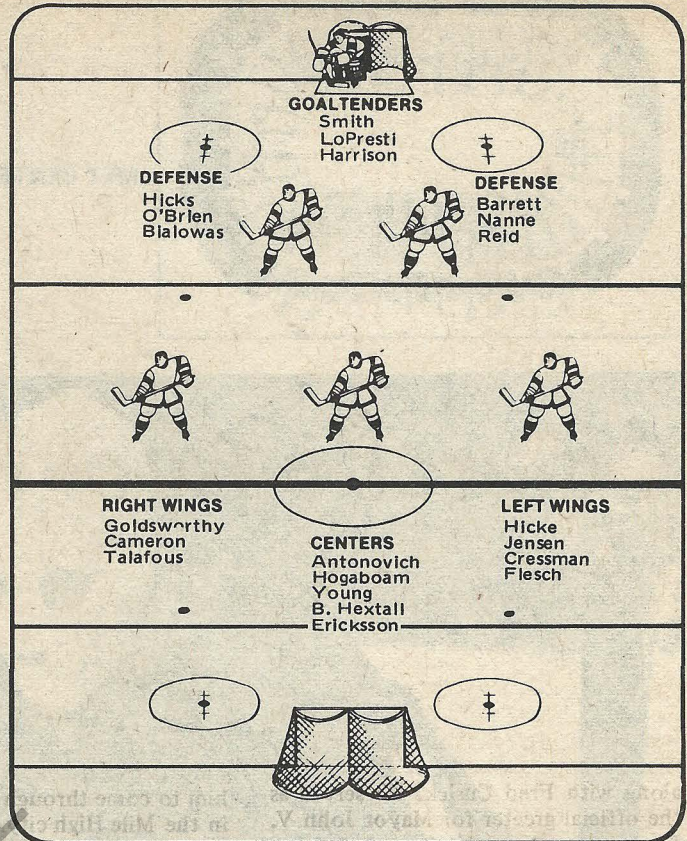


Tim Young

DEPTH CHART



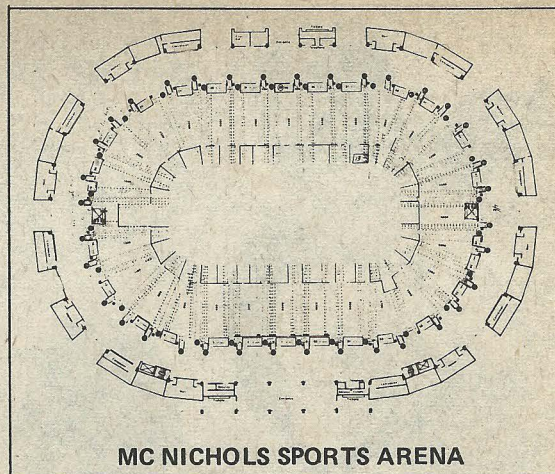
U.S. Olympic Star Steve Jensen scored 7 N.H.L. goals after joining the North Stars.



ROSTER

1976-77 MINNESOTA NORTH STARS

						1975-76 Record		
Player	Hgt.	Wgt.	Place of Birth	Date of Birth	1975-76 Club	G	A	Pts.
FORWARDS								
Cameron, Craig	6.00	205	Edmonton, Alta.	July 19, 1945	Minnesota	8	10	18
Clause, Greg	5.11	205	Oshweken, Ont.	June 4, 1955	Fort Wayne	2	4	6
Cressman, Dave	6.01	180	Kitchener, Ont.	January 2, 1950	Minnesota	4	8	12
Dunlop, Blake	5.11	175	Hamilton, Ont.	April 8, 1953	Minnesota	9	11	20
Ericksson, Roland			Sweden	22 years old	Sweden			
Goldsworthy, Bill	6.01	194	Kitchener, Ont.	August 24, 1944	Minnesota	24	22	46
Hay, Don	5.11	180	Kamloops, B.C.	February 13, 1954	Flint	12	25	37
Hextall, Bryan	5.11	185	Winnipeg, Man.	May 23, 1941	Detroit-Minnesota	8	24	32
Hicke, Ernie	5.11	185	Regina, Sask.	November 7, 1947	Minnesota	23	19	42
Hogaboam, Bill	5.11	170	Swift Current, Sask.	September 5, 1949	Detroit-Minnesota	28	23	51
Jarry, Pierre	5.11	190	Montreal, Que.	March 30, 1949	Minnesota	21	18	39
Jensen, Steve	6.00	190	Minneapolis, Minn.	April 14, 1955	Minnesota	7	6	13
MacPhail, Scott	5.10	172	St. John's, Nfld.	February 18, 1952	New Haven	12	13	25
Magee, Dean	6.02	210	Rocky Mtn. House, Alta.	April 29, 1955	Colorado College	7	6	13
Nantais, Richard	5.10	188	Repentigny, Que.	October 27, 1954	New Haven-Richmond-Minn.	11	11	22
Norris, David	5.11	185	Toronto, Ont.	December 17, 1955	Fort Wayne	20	18	38
Pirus, Alex	6.01	205	Toronto, Ont.	January 12, 1955	Notre Dame Univ.	26	18	44
Rombough, Doug	6.03	210	Fergus, Ont.	July 8, 1950	Minnesota-New Haven	5	20	25
Sharpley, Glenn	6.00	190	York, Ont.	September 6, 1956	Hull Jrs.	60	74	134
Talaious, Dean	6.04	180	Duluth, Minn.	August 25, 1953	Minnesota	18	30	48
Young, Tim	6.02	180	Scarborough, Ont.	February 22, 1955	Minnesota	18	33	51
Younghans, Tom	5.11	175	St. Paul, Minn.	January 22, 1953	Univ. of Minnesota	19	24	43
DEFENSEMEN								
Ahrens, Chris	6.00	190	San Bernadino, Calif.	July 31, 1952	Minnesota-New Haven	2	9	11
Barrett, Fred	6.00	188	Ottawa, Ont.	January 26, 1950	Minnesota	2	9	11
Bialowas, Dwight	5.11	195	Regina, Sask.	September 8, 1952	New Haven-Minnesota	5	18	23
Engle, Jerome	6.00	197	Humboldt, Sask.	November 26, 1950	Minnesota-New Haven	1	20	21
Hicks, Doug	6.00	180	Cold Lake, Alta.	May 28, 1955	Minnesota	5	13	18
MacDougal, Kim	5.11	180	Regina, Sask.	August 29, 1954	Fort Wayne-Columbus	8	16	24
Nanne, Lou	6.00	186	Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.	May 2, 1941	Minnesota	3	14	17
O'Brien, Dennis	6.00	200	Port Hope, Ont.	June 10, 1949	Minnesota	1	14	15
Reid, Tom	6.01	200	Fort Erie, Ont.	June 24, 1946	Minnesota	0	15	15
						Mins.	GA	SO
GOALTENDERS								
Harrison, Paul	6.01	175	Timmins, Ont.	February 11, 1955	Minnesota	307	28	0
Holderness, Brian	5.11	160	Quill Lake, Sask.	October 16, 1954	New Haven	1734	99	1
Lopresti, Peter	6.01	200	Virginia, Minn.	May 23, 1954	Minnesota	1789	123	1
Smith, Gary	6.04	215	Ottawa, Ontario	July 19, 1944	Vancouver	2864	167	2



MC NICHOLS SPORTS ARENA

Colorado Rockies

N.H.L. hockey—5600 feet up

John "Bud" Palmer was a winner when he played with the New York Knickerbockers of the National Basketball Association. He was the first network telecaster of NHL games, along with Fred Cusick. He served as the official greeter for Mayor John V. Lindsey in New York and, he has successfully served as television commentator for pro hockey, basketball, golf and such diverse events as the horse show, dog show and ice follies.

Now a resident of Vail, Colorado, the six foot four inch Palmer has taken on his toughest assignment. He is the front man for a group which purchased the Kansas City Scouts and moved them to the Mile High city.

For a time it looked like the Scouts last game ever would have been played in Japan, on tour with the Washington Capitals in April. But Palmer rescued the franchise, and even though it meant that the NHL had been forced to move a second franchise, it still preserved the league's record of never folding a team since the original 1967-68 expansion.

Palmer is taking over a club which was in total collapse in the second half of 1975-76. After Bep Guidolin resigned in mid-season, Eddie Bush took over. The team fell apart, winding up with only 12 wins and 36 points. Even though Washington totalled 11 wins and 32 points, the Capitals were improving at the end and

proved it by winning the series in Japan.

Wilf Paiement is the Rockies' hope for the future. This young man can only get better, but the pressure for him to come through now will increase in the Mile High city. In 57 games Wilf got 21 goals and 22 assists for 43 points. The leading scorer was tiny center Guy Charron, a mini Bobby Clarke, who logged 71 points.

Colorado traded its goalie, Denis Herron, back to the Pittsburgh Penguins, even though he had a creditable 4.03 goals against last year. They received Michel Plasse, an original Scout, Simon Nolet, another original in both Philadelphia and Kansas City and defenseman Colin Campbell.

It's the defense that needs help more than anything else. Kansas City surrendered 351 goals, which was surpassed only by the Caps' 394. That figure must be reduced by 100 if Colorado is to start the climb up the rocky mountain towards the .500 mark, under G.M. Ray Miron.

The defense needs a transfusion, with ancient Gary Bergman over the hill. Steve Durbano has violent moments, but is really not that good a defender. Dennis Patterson is a fringe major leaguer, at best.

Up front, Colorado inherits bodies who seemingly have made a career of hanging on with expansion and cellar clubs. Craig Patrick is a fair hockey

player, who made the NHL via the California Seals. Chuck Arnason, who can rifle the puck, has bounced from Montreal to Atlanta, to Pittsburgh and then Kansas City. Dave Hudson was an original Islander. Phil Roberto, late of Montreal, St. Louis and Detroit is hampered by repeated injuries. Denis Dupere was an original Washington Capital—and so it goes.

Palmer must put together, with Munson Campbell's help, a front office staff and an entire coaching and scouting crew. With the number of hockey people out of jobs, this isn't too tough, but it will leave the Colorado team somewhat behind in preparation for the new season.

This observer believes that if anybody could do the job in Colorado it might be Palmer. The city was mentally prepared for the NHL, when the former owner of the minor league Denver Spurs, Ivan Mullenix, suddenly switched to the WHA. Last season, at Christmas time, with the Denver WHA team still in town, there were bumper stickers from the year before which read "NHL in 1975-76."

The problem is capital. In Kansas City, the owners headed by Edward Thompson, were woefully under financed. If they had enough money to last five years and lose about \$3 million, the Kansas City franchise would have made it. The same thing may be the story in the Rockies.

PAST RECORD

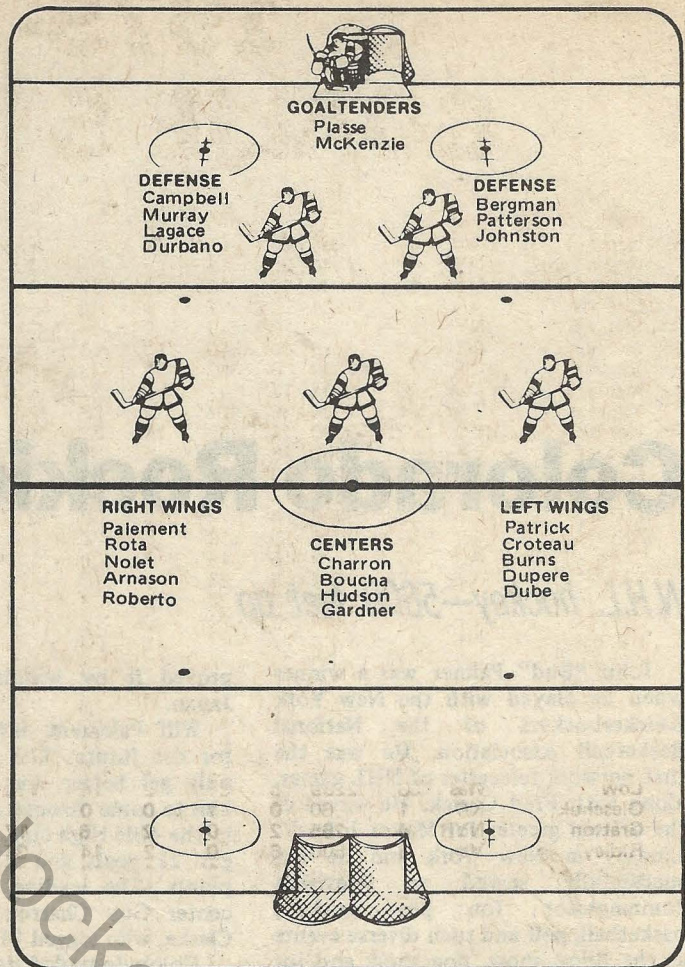
KANSAS CITY

Year	W	L	T	Pts.	%	GF	GA	Plus or Minus	GF/ Game	GA/ Game	Year	Shts./ Game	Shtg. %	Power Play	Pen. Killed	Pen. Min./ Game	Finish	Playoff Result
74-75	15	54	11	41(17)	.256	184(17)	328(15)	[144](17)	2.30	4.10	74-75	27.8(15)	8.3(18)	15.7(15)	76.5(14)	9.3(18)	55	—
75-76	12	56	12	36(17)	.225	190(18)	351(16)	[161](17)	2.38	4.39	75-76	27.4(16)	8.7(18)	13.1(18)	72.9(18)	12.3(12)	55	—



Guy Charron never stops hustling.

DEPTH CHART



ROSTER

1976-77 DENVER

Player	Hgt.	Wgt.	Place of Birth	Date of Birth	1975-76 Club	1975-76 Record		
						G	A	Pts
FORWARDS								
Arnason, Chuck	5.10	180	Dauphin, Minn.	July 15, 1951	Pitts.-K.C.	21	13	34
Boucha, Henry	6.00	185	Warroad, Minn.	June 1, 1951	Minn. (WHA)-K.C.	4	7	11
Burns, Robin	6.00	200	Montreal, Que.	August 27, 1946	Kansas City	13	18	31
Cairns, Don	6.01	190	Calgary, Alta.	October 5, 1955	K.C.-Spfgld.-Pt. Huron	0	0	0
Charron, Guy	5.10	175	Verdun, Que.	January 24, 1949	Kansas City	27	44	71
Croteau, Gary	6.00	205	Sudbury, Ont.	June 20, 1946	Kansas City	19	14	33
Dube, Normand	5.11	180	Sherbrooke, Que.	September 12, 1951	Springfield	31	38	69
Dupere, Denis	6.01	195	Jonquiere, Que.	June 6, 1948	Kansas City	6	8	14
Gardner, Paul	5.11	174		March 5, 1956	Oshawa Jrs.	69	75	144
Hudson, Dave	6.00	175	St. Thomas, Ont.	December 28, 1949	Kansas City	11	20	31
Nolet, Simon	5.09	185	St. Odilon, Que.	November 23, 1941	Kansas City-Pittsburgh	19	23	42
Paiement, Wilf	6.00	191	Earlton, Ont.	October 16, 1955	Kansas City	21	22	43
Patrick, Craig	6.00	185	Detroit, Mich.	May 20, 1946	Kansas City	17	18	35
Roberto, Phil	6.01	190	Niagara Falls, Ont.	January 1, 1949	Detroit-K.C.	8	22	30
DEFENSEMEN								
Bergman, Gary	5.11	185	Kenova, Ont.	October 7, 1938	Kansas City	5	33	38
Campbell, Colin	5.09	190	London, Ont.	January 28, 1953	Pittsburgh	7	10	17
Durbano, Steve	6.01	210	Toronto, Ont.	December 12, 1951	Pittsburgh-K.C.			
Houde, Claude	6.01	190	Drummondville, Que.	November 8, 1947	K.C.-Springfield	0	2	2
Johnston, Larry	6.00	190	Kitchener, Ont.	July 20, 1943	Kansas City	2	10	12
Kitchen, Mike	5.09	182		February 1, 1956	Toronto Jrs.	6	18	24
Lagace, Jean-Guy	5.10	185	L'Abord, Que.	February 5, 1945	Kansas City	3	10	13
Lemelin, Roger	6.03	210	Iroquois Falls, Ont.	February 6, 1954	K.C.-Springfield	0	0	0
McDonald, Terry	6.01	180	Coquitlam, B.C.	January 1, 1956	K.C.-Spfgld.-Pt. Huron	0	1	1
McElmury, Jim	6.00	190	St. Paul, Minn.	October 18, 1948	Kansas City	2	6	8
Patterson, Dennis	5.09	175	Peterborough, Ont.	January 9, 1950	Kansas City	5	16	21
GOALTENDERS								
Plasse, Michel	5.11	160	Montreal, Que.	June 1, 1948	Pittsbr. Jrs.	Mins. 3374	GA 203	SO 2
McKenzie, Bill	5.11	180	St. Thomas, Ont.	March 12, 1949	Kansa City	1120	97	0

1975-76

GOALIE STATISTICS

1975-76 Final

Name	Team	Ga	Min	W	L	T	Pt	For Goal/Shot	Against Goal/Shot	Pct	E N ShO	Goals/Game For Opp
Resch	NYI	43	2546	23	11	8	54	156 1214	88 1211*	.927	1 7-0	3.67 2.07
Dryden	Mon	60	3580	*42	10	8	92	240 2024	121 1652	.927	3 *8-0	4.02 *2.03
Bouchard	Atl	45	2671	19	17	8	46	132 1353	113 1265	.911	2 2-3	2.97 2.54
Smith,B	NYI	38	2254	19	10	9	46	147 1198	98 1078	.909	3 3-0	3.92 2.61
Sfepphenson	Phi	64	3819	40	10	*13	*93	*268 *2401	164 1768	.907	2	4.21 2.58
Esposito	Chi	*67	*4003	30	23	*13	73	213 1995	198 2090	.906	4 4-0	3.20 2.98
Maniago	Min	45	2704	13	27	5	31	115 1094	151 1523	.901	2-4	2.56 3.36
Thomas	Tor	61	3684	28	24	12	68	220 2059	196 1965	.900	5 5-3	3.59 3.20
Herron	KC	60	3620	11	39	11	33	148 1633	*243 *2225	.891	*6 0-3	2.45 4.03
Vachon	LA	51	3060	26	20	5	57	167 1490	161 1474	.891	1 5-2	3.27 3.16
Desjardins	Buf	55	3280	29	15	11	69	235 1814	161 1461	.890	1 2-1	4.30 2.95
Meloche	Cal	41	2440	12	23	6	30	106 1141	140 1270	.890	3 1-2	2.61 3.44
Plasse	Pit	52	3096	24	19	10	58	225 1805	183 1658	.890	1 2-0	*4.35 3.54
Simmons	Cal	39	2360	15	19	5	35	144 1156	131 1152	.886	4 1-1	3.66 3.33
Myre	Atl	35	2129	16	16	4	36	131 1109	122 1070	.886	1-1	3.69 3.42
Wolfe	Was	35	2134	5	23	7	17	94 835	148 1291	.885	2 0-5	2.65 4.17
Rutherford	Det	44	2640	13	25	6	32	113 1234	158 1378	.885	4 4-5	2.57 3.59
Smith,G	Van	48	2864	20	24	6	46	168 1416	167 1444	.884	2 2-1	3.52 3.50
Belanger	Stl	29	1763	11	17	1	23	99 882	113 977	.884	2 0-1	3.38 3.95
Gilbert	Bos	53	3163	33	8	10	76	201 1683	151 1289	.882	3-1	3.82 2.87
Giacomin	Det	33	1980	12	17	4	28	105 983	119 1007	.882	1 2-2	3.18 3.61
Davidson	NYR	53	3207	22	28	5	49	177 1739	212 1769	.880	1 3-3	3.31 3.96
Edwards	LA	29	1740	12	14	3	27	96 826	103 834	.876	1 0-3	3.31 3.55
Johnston	St. L.	36	2152	11	17	9	31	97 1033	130 1029	.874	1 1-2	2.69 3.61
LoPresti	Min	30	1789	7	22	1	15	70 741	123 964	.872	1-5	2.36 4.15
Low	Was	38	2289	6	31	2	14	115 971	208 1432	.855	3 0-2	3.03 5.47
Oleschuk	KC	1	60	0	1	0	0	1 35	4 52	.923		1.00 4.00
Gratton	NYR	4	265	2	0	2	6	17 105	11 138	.920		3.92 2.54
Ridley	Van	8	500	6	0	2	14	34 260	19 219	.913	1-0	3.92 2.19
Cheevers	Bos	15	900	8	2	3	19	62 503	41 463	.911	1 1-0	4.13 2.73
Larocque	Mon	20	1220	16	1	3	35	97 708	50 536	.907	2-0	4.77 2.46
Parent	Phi	10	615	6	2	3	15	42 353	25 260	.904		4.06 2.42
Stanowski	St. L	10	620	5	3	2	12	34 343	33 337	.902		3.29 3.19
Lockett	Van	24	1436	7	8	7	21	69 705	83 775	.893	1	2.88 3.46
Crozier	Buf	10	620	8	2	0	16	49 396	27 241	.888	1-1	4.74 2.61
Inness	Phi	22	1332	10	9	2	22	107 773	85 750	.887	1 0-1	4.86 3.86
Smith,A	Buf	14	840	9	3	2	20	52 419	43 360	.881	1	3.71 3.07
McRae	Tor	16	956	6	5	2	14	64 559	59 492	.880	1	4.00 3.69
Reece	Bos	13	777	7	5	2	16	50 468	43 351	.877	1 2-0	3.85 3.31
Taylor	Pit	5	318	3	2	0	6	27 200	22 174	.874	1	5.06 4.13
Wilson	NYR	18	1080	5	9	3	13	57 576	76 556	.863	1 0-1	3.17 4.22
Soetaert	NYR	4	266	2	2	0	4	19 167	24 170	.859		4.22 5.33
McDuffe	Det	4	240	0	3	1	1	10 101	22 155	.858		2.50 5.50
Villemure	Chi	13	797	2	7	5	9	41 355	57 399	.857	2	3.08 4.28
Belhameur	Was	6	380	0	5	1	1	15 144	34 224	.848	1 0-1	2.37 5.53
Laxton	Pit	7	414	3	4	0	6	24 191	31 203	.847	2 0-1	3.43 4.71
McKenzie	KC	19	1120	1	16	1	3	41 522	97 626	.845	1 0-2	2.20 5.20
Harrison	Min	5	307	0	4	1	1	12 132	28 170	.835	1	2.40 5.50
Grant	Det	2	120	1	1	0	2	8 70	8 45	.822		4.00 4.00
Richardson	Det	1	60	0	1	0	0	0 22	7 36	.806	0-1	0.00 7.00
Bromley	Buf	1	60	0	1	0	0	3 34	7 34	.794		3.00 7.00
Favall	Tor	3	160	0	1	1	1	10 87	15 61	.754		3.75 5.63
Mrazek	Phi	0	6	0	0	0	0	0 0	1 2	.500		0.00

*Led League

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... WHA: Merging or submerging?

By BARRY WILNER

In its fifth year of existence, the World Hockey Association heads south, with the Birmingham Bulls breaking the barrier for the W.H.A. deep in Dixie.

The five-year plan of co-existence with the National Hockey League has not worked for the WHA. Every team except Winnipeg and Quebec in the league lost money in 1975-76, and the prospects for profit this season are very dim. The league still suffers from a minor league image, despite the presence of several genuine superstars in its ranks, and is plagued by empty seats and bad press coverage. It drew 4,123,121 last year, a mini increase from the 4,095,911 of 1974-75.

There is even talk that Bobby Hull, who is to the WHA what Julius (Dr. J) Erving was to the ABA and Joe Namath was to the old American Football League, will announce his retirement. If Hull goes, so does the WHA.

The loop also is troubled by the fiasco of last year's violent playoff series between the Quebec Nordiques and the Calgary Cowboys. Quebec, possibly the second best team in the WHA, was mauled, brutalized and beaten by the Cowboys in the opening round of the Avco World Trophy playoffs. Its star, Marc Tardif, was mugged by a Calgary nonentity named

Rick Jodzio. Those incidents unfortunately received more attention in the media than Winnipeg's sweep to the championship. It is a sad commentary on the state of the league that brawling and possibly illegal tactics take precedence over the excellent performance of the WHA's top team. In mid-season, Denver-Ottawa and Minnesota gave up the ghost. Toronto's Toros have become the Birmingham Bulls. Florida at first claimed the Cleveland Crusaders, but later the Crusaders switched to St. Paul. The San Diego Mariners franchise was saved when hamburger king Ray Kroc, owner of the Padres, purchased the team.

The gallant Mariners played 13 weeks without pay and even beat arch rival Phoenix in their opening playoff series.

The look of the WHA is somewhat different for 1976-77. The Canadian Division, which stirred interest among fans in the Dominion and was, perhaps, the league's biggest asset, is gone. There will be a 12 team setup, with two divisions (East and West), as opposed to the three-division, 14-squad makeup last year. To cut costs and eliminate rooms, the player limit has been cut from 20 to 18.

The WHA also adopted the international rule dividing the third period into ten minute halves, in order

to prevent the home team from having any advantage one end of the rink might give it. This includes situations where in the penalty box is closer to one end of the rink and others in house situations inherent in older rinks.

"We feel we have eliminated the weaker cities and strengthened ourselves immeasurably," says one WHA official. "It is time for us to look to the future, and that is why we chose to move into the south."

The decision to once more challenge the NHL head on in Minnesota makes more sense than the projected Florida adventure. With the North Stars icing a weak squad, the Fighting Saints will have a good shot at retaining the patronage built up in former years.

The new divisional alignment, with probable order of finish, is as follows:

EASTERN DIVISION

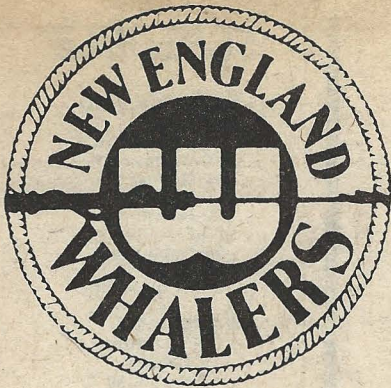
1. New England Whalers
2. Cincinnati Stingers
3. Quebec Nordiques
4. Indianapolis Racers
5. Minnesota Fighting Saints
6. Birmingham Bulls

WESTERN DIVISION

1. Winnipeg Jets (If Hull plays)
2. Houston Aeros (If Howe plays)
3. Calgary Cowboys
4. Phoenix Roadrunners
5. San Diego Mariners
6. Edmonton Oilers

Final Standings 1975-76

CANADIAN DIVISION	GP	W	L	T	PTS	GF	GA	PCT
Winnipeg.....	81	52	27	2	106	345	254	.654
Quebec.....	81	50	27	4	104	371	316	.642
Calgary.....	80	41	35	4	86	307	282	.538
Edmonton.....	81	27	49	5	59	268	345	.364
Toronto.....	81	24	52	5	53	335	398	.327
EASTERN DIVISION	GP	W	L	T	PTS	GF	GA	PCT
Indianapolis.....	80	35	39	6	76	245	247	.475
Cleveland.....	80	35	40	5	75	273	279	.469
New England.....	80	33	40	7	73	255	290	.460
Cincinnati.....	80	35	44	1	71	285	340	.444
WESTERN DIVISION	GP	W	L	T	PTS	GF	GA	PCT
Houston.....	80	53	27	0	106	341	263	.663
Phoenix.....	80	39	35	6	84	302	287	.525
San Diego.....	80	36	38	6	78	303	290	.488
Minnesota.....	50	30	25	4	64	211	212	.542
Denver/Ottawa.....	41	14	26	1	29	134	172	.354



East Division

New England Whalers

Coach Harry Neale is the difference

The New England Whalers are the class of the East, as well as its most solid franchise. Their main competition in the New England area is, of course, the Bruins, with whom the Whalers have no intention of competing. That is why they are based in Hartford, with a large, impressive arena and, with the decline of American League (AHL) hockey, a chance for greater attendance figures.

New England is the payroll town of the East, drawing 372,334 with a 9,308 average in a 10,507 capacity building.

Coach Harry Neale, who took over New England last March and promptly led them to a seven-game semi-final against a superior Houston team before being eliminated, is back at the helm. Although they might not finish in the top two in the Western sector, the Whalers will romp in the East.

Goaltending, while not a particular strength for New England, is the team's biggest asset in comparison to

the rest of the division. Cap Raeder, former New Hampshire All-American, was a revelation in the playoffs after both regular season backstops, Christer Abrahamsson and Bruce Landon, were injured. One of the three, most likely Landon, will be used as trade bait in an effort to obtain a big scorer.

On defense the Whalers boast Tommy Abrahamsson, Rick Ley and Brad Selwood, as good a trio of blue liners as any in the WHA. Veteran Doug Roberts lends a helping hand on defense as well.

The Whalers need to add some offensive punch in order to solidify their top ranking in the East. On hand are Larry Pleau, Mike Rogers, Rosaire Paiement, Ralph Backstrom and Tom Webster, who has the potential to tear up the league. (Unfortunately, for New England, Webster is more interested in tearing up his contractual ties with the Whalers and heading back to the NHL). New England also obtained Wayne Connelly from



HARRY NEALE

Florida in an effort to bolster the goal-scoring. They lost winger Fred O'Donnell and center Bob McManama.

Nick Fotiu, the Whalers' main man with the fists, has jumped to the NHL Rangers so, in a league rampant with "goons," ready to take anyone on at the drop of a puck, the Whalers may be in for some heavy intimidating. They have added scrappy Dan Bolduc, a native American, who can't fight as good as Fotiu, but may become as popular.

Coach Neale had his problems with players in the past—including a fistfight with one—but he is a man who believes in systemized hockey and you know what that did for the Philadelphia Flyers.

"I think we showed in the playoffs what we're capable of," Neale notes. "This year, I don't think we'll be losers in the semifinals."

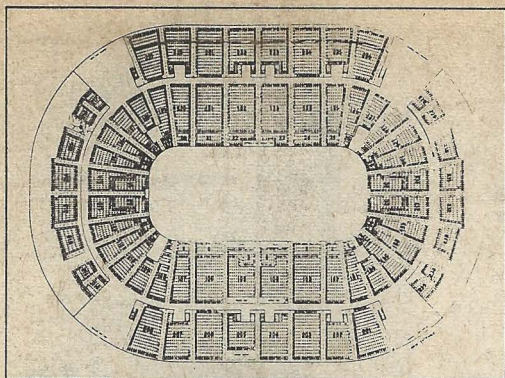
Unless the Whalers offense perks up, the New Englanders would seem to be headed for the same fate in 1976-77.

ROSTER

POS	S	HT	WT	BIRTH DATE	BIRTH PLACE
Abrahamsson, C	G	6-2	175	4-12-47	Leksand, Sweden
Abrahamsson, T	D	6-2	185	4-12-47	Leksand, Sweden
Arndt, Danny	F	5-11	175	3-26-55	Saskatoon, Sask.
Backstrom, Ralph	F	5-10	170	9-18-37	Kirkland Lake, Ont.
Bolduc, Dan	F	5-9	180	4-06-53	Waterville, Maine
Busniuk, Ron	F	6-0	190	9-22-47	Ft. William, Ont.
Carlyle, Steve	D	5-10	180	3-10-50	Lacombe, Alta.
Climie, Ron	F	5-11	180	3-05-50	Hamilton, Ont.
Connelly, Wayne	F	5-10	175	12-16-39	Rocyn, Que.
Earl, Tom	F	6-0	172	6-10-47	Niagara Falls, Ont.
Hanglesben, Alan	F	6-1	195	2-22-53	
Landon, Bruce	F	5-10	180	10-05-49	Kingston, Ont.
Ley, Rick	F	5-9	190	11-02-48	Orillia, Ont.
Lyle, George	F	6-2	205	11-24-53	
Paiement, Rosaire	F	5-11	170	8-12-45	Earlton, Ont.
Pleau, Larry	F	6-1	190	6-29-47	Lynn, Mass.
Raeder, Cap	G	6-0	175	10-08-53	Needham, Mass.
Roberts, Doug	F	6-2	200	10-28-42	Detroit, Mich.
Roberts, Gordon	F	5-11	185	10-02-57	Detroit, Mich.
Rogers, Mike	F	5-9	170	10-24-54	Calgary, Alta.
Selwood, Brad	F	6-1	188	3-18-48	Leamington, Ont.
Swain, Gary	F	5-9	164	9-11-47	Welland, Ont.
Webster, Tom	F	5-9	169	10-04-48	Kirkland Lake, Ont.



Larry Pleau with Winnipeg's Bobby Hull



HARTFORD CIVIC CENTER



Tom Webster's bad back didn't prevent him from scoring 33 goals.

SCHEDULE

NEW ENGLAND OCTOBER

8-Edmonton *
10-Winnipeg *
16-Quebec
19-Houston *
22-Houston
23-Cincinnati
26-Cincinnati
29-Phoenix
30-Birmingham

NOVEMBER

5-Edmonton *
7-Calgary *
9-Winnipeg *
11-Minnesota *
12-Phoenix *
16-Birmingham *
17-Birmingham
19-Winnipeg
20-Minnesota
23-Indianapolis *
25-Birmingham *
27-Minnesota
28-Indianapolis
30-Quebec *

DECEMBER

1-Calgary
3-Quebec
4-Winnipeg
7-Minnesota *
8-Houston
11-San Diego
12-Quebec *
14-Quebec *
17-Indianapolis
18-Birmingham
21-Houston *
23-San Diego *
26-Minnesota
28-Minnesota *
30-Cincinnati *

JANUARY

2-San Diego
5-Cincinnati
7-Quebec
8-Phoenix
9-Quebec *
11-Cincinnati *
13-Indianapolis *
14-Edmonton
16-Minnesota
20-Quebec
23-Cincinnati
25-Cincinnati *
27-San Diego *
28-Phoenix *
30-Indianapolis *

FEBRUARY

1-Birmingham *
6-Minnesota
10-Winnipeg
12-Indianapolis
13-Cincinnati *
15-Houston *
17-Phoenix
18-Birmingham
20-Calgary *
22-Edmonton *
25-Calgary *
27-Winnipeg *

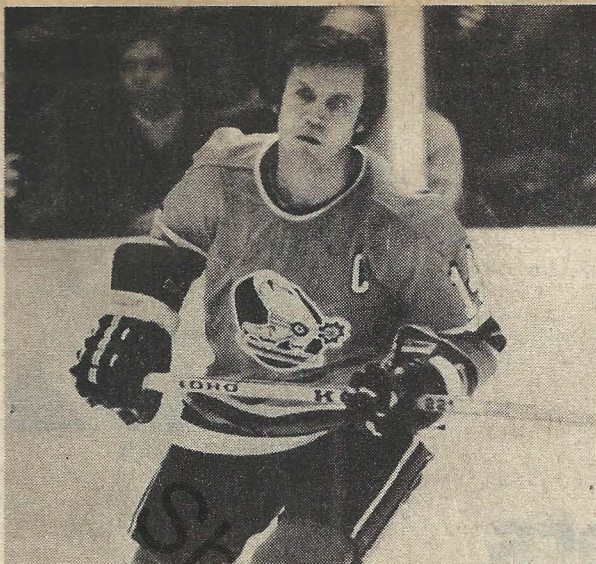
MARCH

2-San Diego
4-Houston
6-Quebec
11-Birmingham *
13-Minnesota *
18-Calgary
20-Calgary
23-Minnesota *
24-Edmonton
26-Indianapolis
27-Edmonton
29-San Diego *
31-Phoenix *

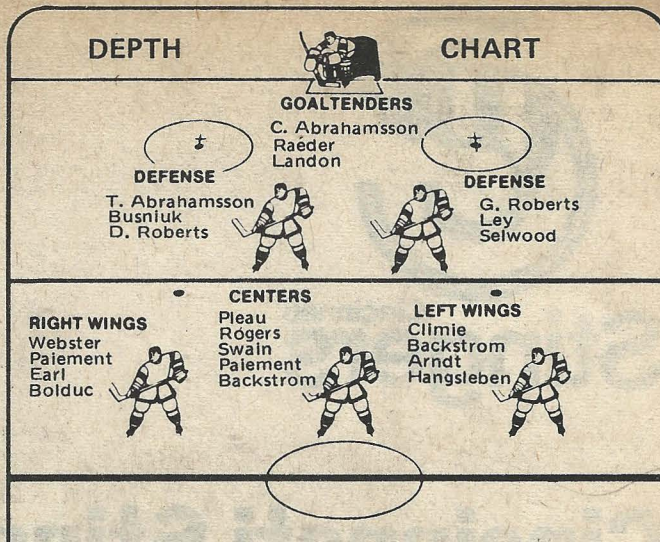
APRIL

2-Indianapolis *
5-Quebec *

* Away



Old pro Ralph Backstrom will be answering the bell for his 18th pro season.



1975-76 W.H.A. Statistical Review

NEW ENGLAND	GP	G	A	TP	PIM	SOG	SC%	WG	IP	PP	SH	LGF	LGA	LGR	L%F	L%A	L%R
Ralph Backstrom	38	14	19	33	6	94	.15	1	22	—	1	36	29	+ 7	.35	.24	+.11
Season Totals	79	35	48	83	20	236	.15	5	59	8	—	84	68	+16	.40	.27	+.13
Tom Webster	55	33	50	83	24	195	.17	11	68	9	—	63	49	+14	.48	.34	+.14
Larry Pleau	75	29	45	74	21	192	.15	4	59	12	2	72	71	+ 1	.37	.33	+.04
Rosaire Paiement	80	28	43	71	89	200	.14	2	52	4	1	68	74	- 6	.35	.32	+.03
Mike Rogers, NE	36	18	14	32	10	88	.20	2	27	1	—	29	34	- 5	.32	.28	+.04
Season Totals	80	30	29	59	20	184	.16	4	43	1	—	63	64	—	.30	.24	+.06
Don Borgeon	31	9	8	17	4	62	.15	1	15	1	—	22	24	- 2	.24	.23	+.01
Season Totals	71	30	24	54	30	181	.17	2	45	6	—	69	64	+ 5	.37	.27	+.10
Ron Climie	65	25	29	45	17	118	.21	3	38	6	—	54	62	- 8	.35	.33	+.02
Rick Ley	67	8	30	38	78	120	.06	—	30	2	—	72	92	-20	.43	.45	-.02
T. Abrahamsson	63	14	21	35	47	150	.09	1	27	3	2	60	71	-11	.38	.40	-.02
Garry Swain	79	10	16	26	46	118	.09	—	14	1	3	28	58	-30	.15	.25	-.10
Alan Hangsleben	78	2	23	25	62	118	.02	—	19	—	—	68	71	- 3	.35	.32	+.03
Fred O'Donnell	79	11	11	22	81	100	.11	3	16	—	—	35	54	-19	.18	.24	-.06
Gordon Roberts	77	3	19	22	102	115	.03	1	12	—	—	66	83	-17	.35	.37	-.02
Tom Earl	66	8	11	19	26	63	.13	2	13	—	6	13	20	- 7	.09	.11	-.02
Doug Roberts	76	4	13	17	51	109	.04	—	15	—	—	61	64	- 3	.32	.29	+.03
Danny Arndt	69	8	8	16	10	89	.09	1	11	1	—	28	44	-16	.17	.21	-.04
Ron Busniuk	11	0	3	3	55	18	.00	—	2	—	—	8	8	—	.33	.31	+.02
Season Totals	71	2	14	16	205	94	.02	—	10	2	—	78	69	+ 9	.41	.40	+.01
Bon McManama	37	3	10	13	28	39	.08	—	9	1	—	18	30	-12	.20	.27	-.07
Brad Selwood	40	2	10	12	28	55	.04	—	10	—	—	36	31	+ 5	.40	.33	+.07
Dan Bolduc	14	2	5	7	14	26	.07	—	5	—	—	10	5	+ 5	.30	.13	+.17
Bob Charlebois	28	3	3	6	0	19	.16	1	2	—	—	8	9	- 1	.11	.09	+.02
Nick Fotiu	49	3	2	5	94	44	.07	—	5	—	—	9	14	- 5	.08	.11	-.03
Don Blackburn	21	2	3	5	6	15	.13	—	2	—	—	7	12	- 5	.16	.28	-.12
John Gateman	12	0	1	1	6	6	.00	—	1	—	—	4	12	- 8	.13	.34	-.21
Bruce Landon	38	0	1	1	0	0	.00	—	1	—	—	82	97	-15	-GOALTENDER-		
C. Abrahamsson	40	0	1	1	6	0	.00	—	1	—	—	92	86	+ 6	-GOALTENDER-		
John Darby	1	0	0	0	0	0	.00	—	—	—	—	0	0	—	.00	.00	—
Cap Raeder	3	0	0	0	0	0	.00	—	—	—	—	1	4	- 3	-GOALTENDER-		
Steve Richardson	6	0	0	0	0	5	.00	—	—	—	—	0	1	- 1	.00	.13	-.13
James Troy	14	0	0	0	43	7	.00	—	—	—	—	0	5	- 5	.00	.10	-.10
Traded Players	80	12	35	47	26	199	.06	—	36	2	—	76	83	- 7	.39	.36	+.03
Whalers Totals	80	255	424	679	1012	2390	.11	33	541	46	15	194	230	-36			
Opponent Totals	80	290	469	759	1072	1472	.12	40	559	56	4	230	194	+36			

GOALTENDERS	GPI	MIN	W	L	T	PCT	SOG	GA	SVS	GAA	EN	SA%	GAF	SG	SP
NEW ENGLAND	80	4890	33	40	7	.460	2469	286	2183	3.51	4	.884	8.63	3	74
Bruce Landon	38	2181	14	19	5	.434	1094	126	968	3.47	3	.885	8.68	—	37
C. Abrahamsson	41	2385	18	18	2	.500	1221	136	1085	3.42	1	.889	8.98	2	33
Cap Raeder	2	100	0	1	0	.000	46	8	38	4.80	—	.826	5.75	—	1
Paul Hoganson	4	224	1	2	0	.333	108	16	92	4.29	—	.852	6.75	—	3
OPPONENTS	80	4885	40	33	7	.540	2384	249	2135	3.06	6	.896	9.51	6	103

POWERPLAY OPPORTUNITIES	GP	OPP/PIM	AVG	OPP	GF	GA	PROF.	FREQ
At Home	40	530	13.3	139	25	4	18.0	5.56
On Road	40	542	13.6	120	21	0	17.5	5.71
Overall	80	1072	13.4	259	46	4	17.8	5.63

SHORTHANDED SITUATIONS	GP	PIM	AVG	SIT	GF	GA	EFF.	FREQ
At Home	40	476	11.9	135	9	24	82.2	5.63
On Road	40	536	13.4	136	6	32	76.5	4.25
Overall	40	1012	12.7	271	15	56	79.3	4.84



TERRY SLATER

Cincinnati Stingers

Playoffs or bust

The Stingers, under the guidance of Terry Slater, just missed the playoffs in their first year. Some feel he should have done better. Their second season will be more rewarding.

The Stingers had but one man in the Top 25 in WHA scoring last year but they potted 285 goals, the most in the East. They are a well-balanced team, led by winger Rick Dudley, a versatile two-way bruiser with a fine touch around the net and a bruising way in the corners.

Dudley is supported by the likes of Claude Larose, Jacques Locas and Dennis Sobchuk, all solid all-around performers. Cincinnati, the only WHA team to crack the NHL monopoly on top juniors, signed forward Peter Marsh, who logged 75 goals and 156 points for Sherbrooke.

Cincinnati is in need of defensive help too. Serge Aubrey and Paul Hoganson shared most of the duties

last season but there are rumors that the Stingers will have an entirely new face in goal in the upcoming campaign. (Would you believe Gary Smith?)

The backline is anchored down by Mike Pelyk but needs shoring up. The Stingers gave up the most goals in their division (340) last year, but much of that can be attributed to expansion baby blues. Another worry is the summer knee surgery which Locas underwent.

Cincinnati is a city used to success with playoff squads like the Reds in baseball and the Bengals in football. The Stingers, who have the whole area to themselves in the winter since there is no basketball on the pro level in Cincy, can expect to prosper at the gate if they are successful on the ice. Cincinnatians will support a winner.

Cincinnati fans came out 7,741 strong in the first season, not bad, for a total paid of 309,630.

The Stingers completed some minor transactions during the summer, sending center Bryan Campbell to Indianapolis, and Gene Sobchuk, brother of Dennis, to Florida. They reclaimed Sobchuk when Florida became St. Paul.

Slater hopes that Mike Pelyk, Ron Plumb, and John Hughes, who racked up 204 P.I.M., will form the nucleus of a consistent defense.

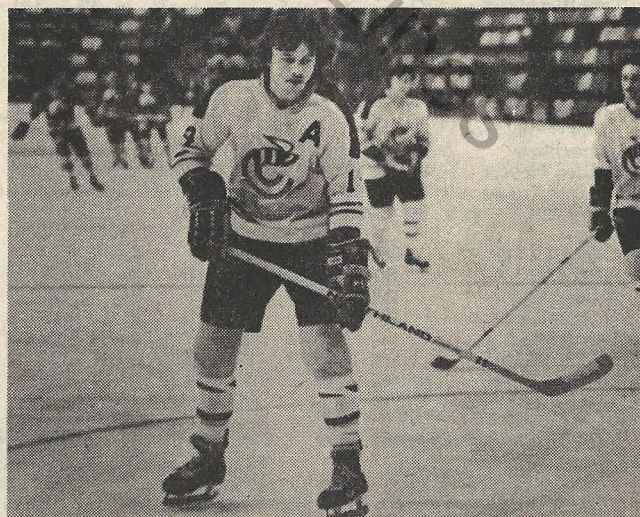
It will be up to Slater to get his charges to play two-way hockey more often.

"I don't expect us to have much trouble making the playoffs," offers Slater. "Last year was a good experience for the guys and they'll benefit from it this year."

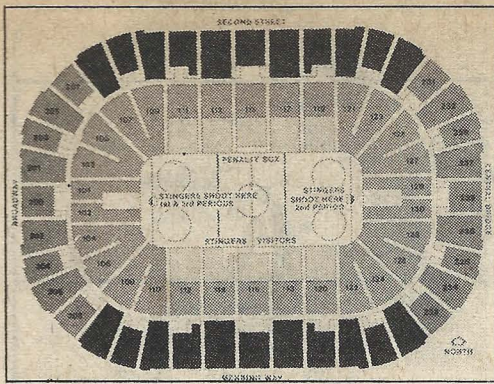
They should benefit enough to pass Quebec and finish runnerup to New England in the East.

ROSTER

	POS	S	HT	WT	BIRTH DATE	BIRTH PLACE
Abgrall, Dennis	F	R	6-0	180	4-24-53	Mooseomin, Sask.
Beaton, Frank	F	L	5-10	175	4-28-53	Antigonish, N.S.
Dudley, Rick	F	F	6-0	190	1-31-49	Toronto, Ont.
Guite, Pierre	F	F	6-2	190	4-17-52	Montreal, Que.
Hoganson, Paul	G	R	6-0	180	11-12-49	Toronto, Ont.
Hughes, John	F	F	5-10	210	3-18-54	Charlottetown, Ont.
Justin, Dan	D	R	6-1	180	2-12-52	N. Brighton, Minn.
Inkpen, Dave	G	L	6-0	185	9-04-54	Edmonton, Alta.
Kiely, John	D	L	6-3	190	8-03-52	Ithaca, N.Y.
La Pointe, N.	G	L	6-1	180	8-13-55	Laval, Que.
LaRose, Claude	F	R	6-0	170	3-02-42	Hearst, Ont.
Leduc, Rich	F	L	5-11	170	8-24-51	Ile Perrot, Que.
Locas, Jacques	F	F	5-8	170	1-07-54	St. Jerome, Que.
Marsh, Peter	F	R	6-1	180	12-21-56	Halifax N.S.
McKenzie, John	F	R	5-9	178	12-12-37	High River, Alta.
Pelyk, Mike	D	L	6-1	190	9-29-47	Toronto, Ont.
Plumb, Ron	D	R	5-10	175	7-17-50	Kingston, Ont.
Serafini, Ronald	D	L	5-11	185	10-31-53	Detroit, Mich.
Smeds, Dale	F	L	6-1	195	4-23-51	Roseau, Minn.
Sobchuk, Dennis	F	F	6-2	176	1-12-54	Lang, Sask.
Sobchuk, Gene	F	L	5-9	170	1-02-51	Lang, Sask.
Steele, Billy	F	R	5-9	165	11-13-52	Edinburgh, Scot.
Walker, Russell	F	R	6-2	185	5-24-53	Red Deer, Alta.



Dennis Sobchuk scored 72 points in his rookie year.



RIVERFRONT COLISEUM



Rick Dudley turned in 43 goals for the Stingers last year.

SCHEDULE

CINCINNATI

OCTOBER

- 7-Minnesota
- 8-Phoenix*
- 9-San Diego*
- 14-Birmingham*
- 15-Indianapolis*
- 17-Quebec*
- 19-Minnesota*
- 23-New England*
- 26-New England*
- 29-San Diego
- 30-Phoenix

NOVEMBER

- 3-Indianapolis
- 4-Indianapolis*
- 6-Winnipeg
- 10-Edmonton
- 13-Indianapolis
- 16-Indianapolis*
- 19-Edmonton*
- 21-Winnipeg*
- 23-Minnesota*
- 24-Indianapolis
- 27-Birmingham
- 30-Birmingham*

DECEMBER

- 3-Calgary
- 5-Houston
- 8-San Diego
- 10-Houston
- 12-Phoenix
- 15-Minnesota
- 17-Winnipeg*
- 18-Minnesota*
- 22-Birmingham
- 23-Houston*
- 26-Calgary*
- 27-Edmonton*
- 30-New England

JANUARY

- 5-New England*
- 7-Birmingham
- 8-San Diego
- 11-New England
- 13-San Diego*
- 14-Phoenix*
- 16-Winnipeg*
- 20-Phoenix*
- 23-New England*
- 25-New England
- 29-Quebec*

FEBRUARY

- 2-Birmingham
- 5-Minnesota
- 6-Quebec*
- 9-Indianapolis
- 11-Winnipeg
- 12-Minnesota*
- 13-New England
- 15-Edmonton*
- 16-Calgary*
- 18-Calgary*
- 19-Quebec
- 20-Phoenix
- 22-Birmingham*
- 25-Quebec
- 26-Winnipeg

MARCH

- 5-Indianapolis
- 6-Houston
- 9-Edmonton
- 11-Houston*
- 12-Calgary
- 13-Birmingham
- 15-Birmingham*
- 16-Calgary
- 18-Minnesota
- 22-Indianapolis*
- 23-Quebec
- 25-Edmonton
- 26-Quebec*
- 29-Birmingham*
- 30-Indianapolis*

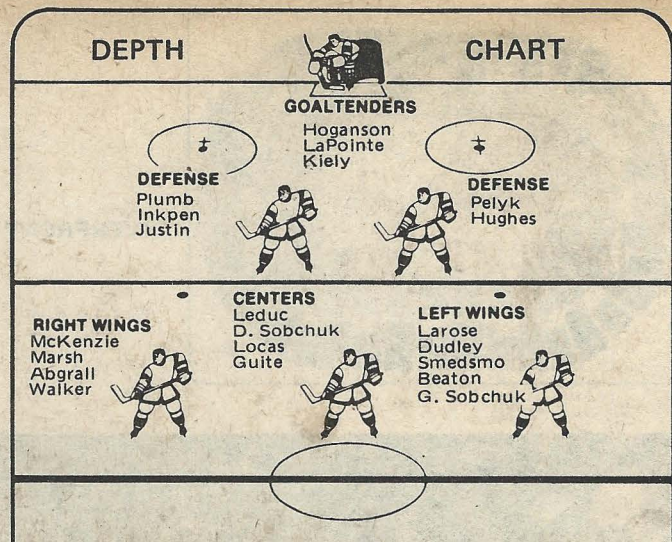
APRIL

- 1-Houston*
- 2-San Diego*
- 6-Quebec

*AWAY



Defenseman John Hughes drew 204 penalty minutes last year.



1975-76 W.H.A. Statistical Review

CINCINNATI	GP	G	A	TP	PIM	SOG	SC%	WG	IP	PP	SH	LGF	LGA	LGR	L%	L%A	L%
Rick Dudley	74	43	38	81	156	218	.20	6	59	13	-	76	76	-	.36	.31	+.05
Jacques Locas	80	27	46	73	70	200	.14	4	50	7	0	82	98	-14	.37	.39	-.02
Dennis Sobchuk	79	32	40	72	74	254	.13	1	48	5	2	73	68	+5	.35	.28	+.07
Bryan Campbell	77	22	50	72	24	191	.12	2	46	6	1	64	74	-10	.29	.31	-.02
John McKenzie, Cin.	12	3	10	13	6	17	.18	-	6	1	-	9	10	-1	.36	.23	+.13
Season Totals	69	24	36	60	54	142	.17	6	44	5	2	58	49	+9	.32	.27	+.05
Claude Larose	79	28	24	52	19	195	.14	6	40	1	-	66	79	-13	.30	.32	-.02
Ron Plumb	80	10	36	46	31	287	.03	3	32	6	-	99	107	-8	.44	.43	+.01
Pierre Guite	52	20	24	44	80	114	.18	3	28	5	-	56	57	-1	.36	.36	-
Gene Sobchuk	78	24	19	43	37	184	.13	3	32	4	-	64	70	-6	.30	.30	-
John Hughes	79	3	34	37	204	171	.02	-	24	-	-	105	108	-3	.48	.44	+.04
Terry Ball, Cin.	36	3	14	17	12	63	.05	-	14	1	-	35	36	-1	.35	.34	+.01
Season Totals	59	5	29	34	30	125	.04	-	25	3	-	53	75	-22	.28	.38	-.10
Mike Pelyk	75	10	23	33	117	176	.06	-	22	2	-	96	101	-5	.44	.42	+.02
Murray Myers	56	14	15	29	12	108	.13	-	19	2	-	42	40	+2	.28	.25	+.03
Dave Inkpen	80	4	24	28	95	120	.03	2	16	-	-	97	107	-10	.43	.43	-
Bernie MacNeil	77	15	12	27	83	122	.12	2	16	-	5	33	47	-14	.15	.19	-.04
Dale Smedsmo	66	8	14	22	187	67	.12	2	17	-	-	36	44	-8	.19	.21	-.02
Mike Byers, Cin.	20	3	3	6	0	42	.07	-	3	-	-	12	17	-5	.29	.27	+.02
Season Totals	41	7	6	13	0	67	.10	-	8	-	-	20	27	-7	.23	.25	-.02
Pat Donnelly	23	5	7	12	4	54	.09	-	11	-	-	12	30	-18	.20	.37	-.17
Don O'Donoghue	20	1	8	9	0	11	.09	-	6	-	-	13	16	-3	.22	.22	-
Steve Andrascik	20	3	2	5	21	44	.07	-	4	-	-	8	8	-	.13	.11	+.02
Frank Beaton	29	2	3	5	61	19	.11	-	2	-	-	9	8	+1	.12	.08	+.04
Billy Steele	3	2	0	2	0	4	.50	-	2	1	-	3	3	-	.50	.27	+.23
Ron Serafini	16	0	2	2	15	15	.00	-	2	-	-	7	18	-11	.19	.30	-.11
Paul Hoganson, Cin.	45	0	1	1	4	0	.00	-	1	-	-	109	102	+7	-	-	-GOALTENDER-
Season Totals	49	0	2	2	4	0	.00	-	2	-	-	114	115	-1	-	-	-GOALTENDER-
Bruce Abbey	17	1	0	1	12	2	.50	-	-	-	-	1	4	-3	.02	.07	-.05
Serge Aubry	12	0	1	1	4	0	.00	-	-	-	-	23	28	-5	-	-	-GOALTENDER-
John Kiely	22	0	1	1	6	0	.00	-	-	-	-	46	60	-14	-	-	-GOALTENDER-
Rich Coutu	3	0	0	0	0	0	.00	-	-	-	-	9	14	-5	-	-	-GOALTENDER-
Norm LaPointe	12	0	0	0	2	0	.00	-	-	-	-	36	41	-5	-	-	-GOALTENDER-
Dan Justin	17	0	0	0	2	19	.00	-	-	-	-	7	17	-10	.21	.28	-.07
Traded Players	14	3	2	5	8	32	.09	-	3	-	-	6	7	-1	.15	.19	-.04
Stingers Totals	80	285	452	737	1344	2738	.10	35	518	54	8	223	249	-26	-	-	-
Opponent Totals	80	340	562	902	1248	2606	.13	44	583	83	8	249	223	+26	-	-	-

GOALTENDERS CINCINNATI	GPI	MIN	W	L	T	PCT	SOG	GA	SVS	GAA	EN	SA%	GAF	SG	SP
Paul Hoganson	45	2392	19	24	0	.442	1270	145	1125	3.64	3	.886	8.76	2	44
Season Totals	50	2616	20	26	1	.436	1378	161	1217	3.69	3	.883	8.56	2	50
Serge Aubry	12	549	6	4	0	.600	267	38	229	4.15	-	.858	7.03	1	8
John Kiely	22	1087	6	8	1	.433	604	78	526	4.31	1	.871	7.74	-	15
Norm LaPointe	12	641	4	6	0	.400	377	55	322	5.15	2	.854	6.85	-	6
Rich Coutu	3	149	0	2	0	.000	81	17	64	6.85	1	.790	4.76	-	-
OPPONENTS	80	4815	44	35	1	.556	2735	282	2453	3.51	3	.897	9.70	2	88

POWERPLAY OPPORTUNITIES

	GP	OPP	PIM	AVG	OPP	GF	GA	PROF.	FREQ	GP	PIM	AVG	SIT	GFGA	EFF.	FREQ
At Home	40	642	16.1	153	34	4	22.2	4.50	40	669	16.7	145	5	32	77.9	4.53
On Road	40	606	15.2	164	20	4	12.2	8.20	40	675	16.9	176	3	51	71.0	3.45
Overall	80	1248	15.6	317	54	8	17.0	5.87	80	1344	16.8	321	8	83	74.1	3.87

SHORTHANDED SITUATIONS

	GP	PIM	AVG	SIT	GFGA	EFF.	FREQ
At Home	40	669	16.7	145	5	32	77.9
On Road	40	675	16.9	176	3	51	71.0
Overall	80	1344	16.8	321	8	83	74.1



MARC BOILEAU

Quebec Nordiques

Can Tardif come back?

The Quebec Nordiques need no bolstering of their lamp-lighting statistics. They are, however, in dire need of some morale-boosting.

The heart of Les Nordiques was torn out by the bloody Calgary series and the hospitalization of Tardif, hockey's top scorer in 1975-76 (71-77-148). In addition, the ever useful Rejean Houle has returned to the Montreal Canadiens. And Jean Guy Gendron has been replaced behind the bench by Marc Boileau, who was hired to improve the team defensively.

Tardif's condition is questionable. Without him the Nordiques will be hard pressed to finish third in the East. With him, they can be expected to challenge Cincinnati for the runnerup spot behind New England. With Tardif and Houle they had developed into a mini Montreal type aggregation of flying Frenchmen.

Although the offense undoubtedly will suffer if Tardif is absent, the

Nordiques still can rely on Real "Buddy" Cloutier for at least one more season. The MVP of the WHA All-Star Game last winter, Cloutier is the brightest young star in the league. By 1977-78, he may be the brightest young star in the NHL for he is coveted by a dozen teams, especially Les Habitants. Usually, when Montreal sets its sights on a high-flying Frenchman, he winds up in the tricolore. Cloutier logged 60 goals and 54 assists.

Other Nordiques attackmen include Chris Bordeleau, Serge Bernier and defenseman J.C. Tremblay, who totalled 89 points last year from his blue line post. Both Bordeleau and Bernier topped the 100 mark.

Tremblay will have to concentrate more on defense this year, however, for the Nordiques to be triumphant. Dale Hoganson, the team's best defenseman, is gone, traded to Birmingham. Boileau will have to find help for J.C. from among a second-rate bunch.

In goal will be Richard Brodeur, whose 3.82 goals-against won't impress very many opponents. Brodeur is not a steady netminder, given to moments of indecision and prone to costly mistakes that result in goals. So are his defensemen, so keeping the puck out of the cage will be a real problem. Quebec allowed 316 goals last year, far higher than Winnipeg's Canadian division-winning 245 last year. It was the Nordiques' super attack with 371 goals, which enabled Quebec to finish a scant two points back of Winnipeg.

"All of the players, including the stars, are going to tow the line," he says. "I demand a lot of work from everyone. I start a regular day in the season with 15 minutes of hard skating, followed by 50 pushups before practice begins.

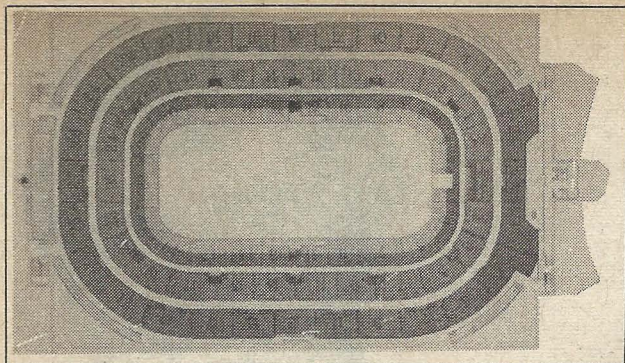
The Nordiques' proud followers totalled 395,383, the top gate in the WHA, with the average being 9,850. Quebec fans dream of the NHL, but Montreal would never let them in.

ROSTER

	POS	S	HT	WT	BIRTH DATE	BIRTH PLACE
Benzelock, Jim	F	R	5-10	187	6-21-47	Winnipeg, Man.
Bernier, Jean	F	R	5-10	170	7-21-54	St. Hyacinthe, Que.
Bernier, Serge	F	R	6-1	190	4-29-47	Padoue, Que.
Bordeleau, C.	F	R	5-8	152	9-23-47	Noranda, Que.
Brackenbury, C.	F	R	5-10	190	1-31-52	Kapuskasing, Ont.
Brodeur, Richard	G	R	5-7	160	9-15-52	Montreal, Que.
Cloutier, Real	F	R	5-10	170	7-30-56	St. Emile, Que.
Constantin, C.	F	R	6-1	180	4-30-54	Montreal, Que.
Dubois, Michel	F	R	5-11	181	11-07-54	Montreal, Que.
Donnelly, Peter	F	R	5-8	160	6-14-48	Detroit, Mich.
Fitchner, Bob	F	R	6-0	190	12-22-50	Sudbury, Ont.
Gallant, Gordie	F	R	5-11	172	10-27-50	Shediac, N.B.
Globensky, Allan	F	R	6-1	190	4-17-51	Montreal, Que.
Jordon, Rick	F	R	6-3	200	3-31-50	Toronto, Ont.
Labossiere, Gor.	F	R	6-1	185	1-02-40	St. Boniface, Man.
Prentice, Bill	F	R	6-0	190	8-03-50	Lindsay, Ont.
Pronchuck, Rob	F	R	6-0	190	1-18-54	
Roy, Pierre	F	R	6-0	175	3-12-52	Amos, Que.
Sutherland, Steve	F	R	5-11	172	9-01-46	Noranda, Que.
Tardif, Marc	F	R	6-1	178	6-12-49	Granby, Que.
Tremblay, J.C.	D	R	5-11	190	1-22-39	Bagotville, Que.
Watson, Jim	D	R	6-2	195	6-28-43	Malartic, Que.
Zrymiak, Jerry	D	R	6-1	195	10-19-48	Regina, Sask.



Goaltender Richard Brodeur was blamed for the Nordiques' playoff loss.



THE COLISEE



Marc Tardif (8) sends in a shot on Toronto's Jim Shaw.

SCHEDULE

QUEBEC

OCTOBER

9-Calgary
10-Birmingham
12-San Diego
16-New England *
17-Cincinnati
19-Birmingham *
21-Calgary *
23-Houston
26-Phoenix
29-Indianapolis *
30-Minnesota

NOVEMBER

2-Phoenix
6-Birmingham
9-Birmingham
13-Minnesota
16-Winnipeg *
18-Minnesota *
19-Calgary *
21-Edmonton *
23-Winnipeg
25-Indianapolis *
26-Minnesota *
27-Indianapolis
30-New England

DECEMBER

3-New England *
5-Winnipeg
7-Edmonton
9-Phoenix *
11-Indianapolis
12-New England
14-New England
17-Houston *
19-San Diego *
21-Birmingham *
22-Minnesota *
26-Winnipeg *
28-Edmonton *
30-Calgary *

JANUARY

4-San Diego
7-New England *
8-Houston
9-New England
11-Edmonton
15-Minnesota
19-Birmingham *
20-New England *
22-Calgary
25-Indianapolis
29-Cincinnati

FEBRUARY

1-Minnesota
6-Cincinnati
8-Winnipeg
11-Indianapolis *
12-Houston *
16-San Diego *
18-Minnesota *
19-Cincinnati *
22-Indianapolis
24-Birmingham *
25-Cincinnati *
26-Birmingham

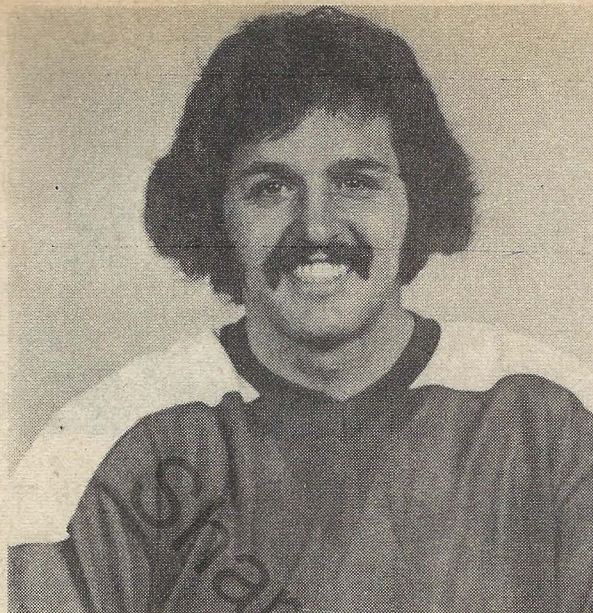
MARCH

1-Edmonton *
2-Winnipeg *
5-San Diego
6-New England *
8-Phoenix
12-Edmonton
15-Houston *
17-Phoenix *
19-Calgary
22-Houston
23-Cincinnati *
24-Indianapolis *
26-Cincinnati
27-Minnesota
30-Minnesota *

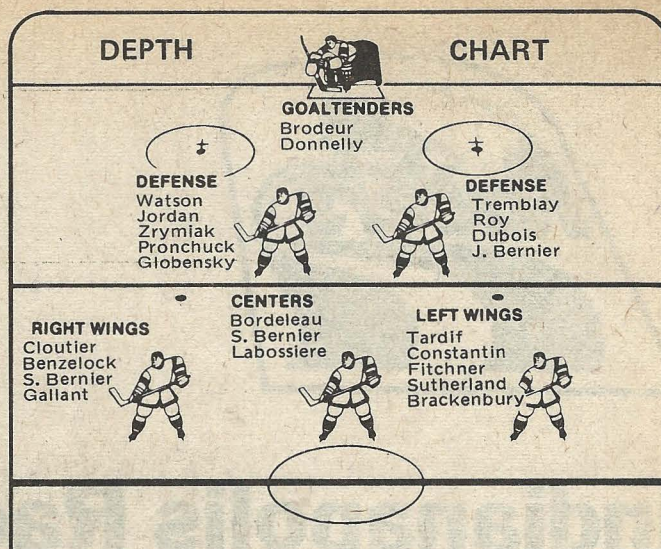
APRIL

2-Phoenix *
3-San Diego *
5-New England
6-Cincinnati *

* Away



Serge Bernier



1975-76 W.H.A. Statistical Review

QUEBEC	GP	G	A	TP	PIM	SOG	SC%	WG	IP	PP	SH	FLG	LGA	LGR	L%F	L%A	L%R
Marc Tardif	81	71	77	148	79	359	.20	10	105	21	1	130	95	+35	.45	.40	+05
Real Cloutier	80	60	54	114	27	246	.24	5	83	16	-	125	92	+33	.44	.39	+05
Chris Bordeleau	74	37	72	109	42	243	.15	7	78	11	1	108	92	+16	.42	.43	-.01
Rejean Houle	81	51	52	103	61	256	.20	9	67	19	-	98	78	+20	.34	.33	+01
Serge Bernier	70	34	68	102	91	283	.12	5	73	4	2	87	61	+26	.35	.29	+06
J. C. Tremblay	80	12	77	89	16	161	.07	2	65	3	-	158	118	+40	.55	.52	+03
Bob Fitchner	21	7	9	16	22	34	.21	-	12	-	-	18	10	+8	.25	.18	+07
Season Totals	73	22	25	47	134	108	.20	2	39	5	-	50	42	+8	.27	.24	+03
Steve Sutherland	74	22	19	41	197	159	.14	1	26	-	-	55	65	-10	.20	.31	-.11
Pierre Roy	78	6	30	36	258	100	.06	1	28	-	-	115	103	+12	.42	.46	-.04
Ted Hampson, Que.	14	4	10	14	2	18	.22	1	9	-	-	15	8	+7	.24	.22	+02
Season Totals	73	9	25	34	16	84	.11	1	21	-	1	34	30	+4	.15	.16	-.01
Jean Bernier	81	4	26	30	10	111	.04	-	19	-	-	109	84	+25	.38	.35	+03
Tom Serviss	71	7	19	26	12	76	.09	2	14	1	-	34	31	+3	.14	.16	-.02
Curt Brackenbury	15	4	5	9	111	24	.17	1	8	-	-	14	6	+8	.25	.16	+09
Season Totals	74	8	14	22	365	76	.11	1	17	-	-	41	26	+15	.18	.14	+04
Gord Gallant	64	4	15	19	297	90	.04	1	10	-	-	36	31	+5	.15	.18	-.03
Dale Hoganson	45	3	14	17	18	64	.05	-	17	1	-	75	54	+21	.49	.46	+03
Charles Constantin	41	8	7	15	77	60	.13	2	11	-	1	24	25	-1	.17	.24	-.07
Bill Prentice	21	2	5	7	89	22	.09	-	4	1	-	30	23	+7	.37	.43	-.06
Season Totals	59	6	7	13	181	69	.09	2	9	1	-	44	42	+2	.28	.31	-.03
Ric Jordan	54	4	7	11	75	49	.08	2	6	-	-	45	40	+5	.23	.23	-.01
Jim Benzelock	34	2	5	7	6	37	.06	-	4	-	-	10	11	-1	.09	.09	-.01
Michael Dubois	21	0	3	3	23	13	.00	-	2	-	-	16	14	+2	.21	.25	-.04
Season Totals	55	2	5	7	127	42	.04	-	6	1	-	23	32	-9	.16	.24	-.08
Allan Globensky	34	1	2	3	13	7	.13	-	1	-	-	9	11	-2	.09	.11	-.02
Richard Brodeur	69	0	3	3	2	0	.00	-	2	-	-	233	180	+53	-GOALTENDER-		
Florent Fortier	4	1	1	2	0	2	.50	-	1	-	-	2	1	+1	.10	.09	-.01
Michel Deguise	18	0	1	1	0	0	.00	-	1	-	-	42	48	-6	-GOALTENDER-		
Jim Watson	28	0	1	1	24	17	.00	-	1	-	-	15	36	-21	.18	.40	-.22
Gary Grisdale	2	0	1	1	5	0	.00	-	-	-	-	2	0	+2	.18	.00	+18
John Cuniff	2	0	0	0	5	0	.00	-	-	-	-	0	2	-2	.00	.29	-.29
Pete Donnelly	4	0	0	0	0	0	.00	-	-	-	-	12	9	+3	-GOALTENDER-		
Traded Players	100	27	44	71	59	181	.15	1	48	-	-	97	88	+9	.28	.28	---
Nordiques Tot.	81	371	628	999	1654	2603	.14	50	714	77	5	288	237	+51			
Opponent Totals	81	316	503	819	1389	2742	.12	27	571	69	10	237	288	-51			

GOALTENDERS	GPI	MIN	W	L	T	PCT	SOG	GA	SVS	GAA	EN	SA%	GAF	SG	SP
QUEBEC	81	4932	50	27	4	.642	2740	314	2426	3.82	2	.885	8.73	2	81
Richard Brodeur	69	3967	44	21	2	.672	2216	244	1972	3.69	1	.890	9.06	2	66½
Michel Deguise	18	835	6	5	2	.538	460	60	400	4.35	1	.870	7.67	-	14
Peter Donnelly	4	129	0	1	0	.000	65	10	55	4.65	-	.846	6.50	-	½
OPPONENTS	81	4924	27	50	4	.358	2598	366	2232	4.46	5	.859	7.10	1	57

POWERPLAY OPPORTUNITIES

	GP	OPP/PIM	AVG	OPP	GF	GA	PROF.	FREQ
At Home	40	746	18.7	119	47	4	39.5	2.53
On Road	41	643	15.7	130	30	7	23.1	4.33
Overall	81	1389	17.1	249	77	10	30.9	3.23

SHORTHANDED SITUATIONS

	GP	PIM	AVG	SIT	GF	GA	EFF.	FREQ
At Home	40	823	20.6	143	3	28	80.4	5.11
On Road	41	831	20.3	162	2	41	74.7	3.05
Overall	81	1654	20.4	305	5	69	77.4	4.42



JACQUES DEMERS

Indianapolis Racers

Can Keon assume leadership role?

Indianapolis won the Eastern (or losers) Division in 1975-76 despite a 35-39-6 record. Such prominence will not be enjoyed again this season.

Pat Stapleton, the core of the Racers' defense, has retired. When Whitey left the Chicago Black Hawks of the NHL, a team with far more talent than the Racers possess, it took the Hawks years to recover—in fact, many feel that they have yet to recover from his loss on the backline.

Stapleton was the leader of this team and still one of hockey's best defensemen. The 44 points he scored last season is the last thing Indianapolis will miss. It was Whitey Stapleton, more than anyone, who was responsible for the team's first-place finish and league-leading goals-against average. The Racers allowed only 247 goals against.

That average, 2.96, will not be repeated. The two rookies who helped

Indianapolis to that lofty defensive position, Michel Dion and Jim Park, will suffer most from Stapleton's retirement. The Racers used four goalies last year, but veteran Andy Brown, he of the maskless face, probably won't make the team and Leif Holmquist will serve as backup for the two youngsters.

Park probably will get the first shot at starting, but coach Jacques Demers believes in splitting up netminding chores, so Dion and Holmquist will see some action.

Darryl Maggs and Ken Block remain as solid backliners but they will need help in order to keep the goals-against down. They may get it from the goaltenders but some new faces on defense would help. Maggs is rumored as thinking of jumping back to the N.H.L.

Offensively, Indianapolis has Davey Keon, still a roadrunner at 36. He will

try to spur an attack that ranked last in the WHA last season. The Racers scored only 245 goals last year. Keon will need help from Renald Leclerc, Mike Parrizeau, Hugh Harris, Al Karlander and the recently acquired Bryan Campbell.

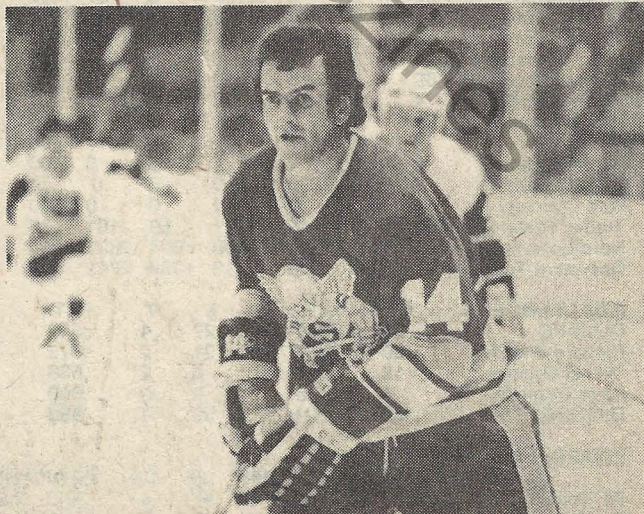
Demers used more than 40 skaters last season in an attempt to make the playoffs. Winding up on top of the eastern sector was gravy for the Racers, but they can't expect that situation again.

Indianapolis will need a successful team to draw well, just as will Cincinnati. But the Racers must contend with NBA basketball for the first-time and the Racers will be gathering much of the entertainment money in the Indiana capital.

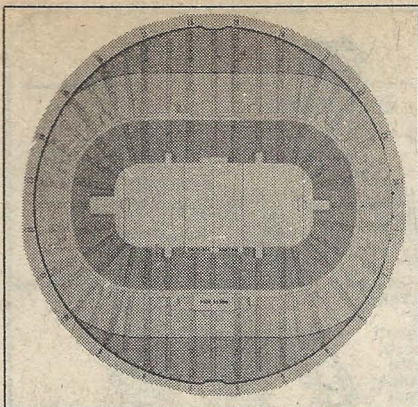
If the Racers fail on the ice, they will fail at the gate as many of the 8,778 average attendants from 1975-76 switch to watching NBA roundball.

ROSTER

	POS	S	HT	WT	BIRTH DATE	BIRTH PLACE
Baltimore, Byron	D	L	6-2	190	8-26-52	Whitehorse, Yukon
Block, Ken	D	L	5-10	184	3-18-44	Steinbach, Man.
Bond, Kerry	F-D	L	6-0	190	7-18-45	Sudbury, Ont.
Brown, Andy	G	L	5-11	185	2-14-44	Hamilton, Ont.
Campbell, Bryan	F	L	6-0	175	3-27-44	Sudbury, Ont.
Clackson, Kim	D	R	5-11	195	2-13-55	Saskatoon, Sask.
Coates, Brian	F	L	6-0	195	9-22-52	Carmen, Man.
Dion, Michel	G	R	5-10	170	2-11-54	Granby, Que.
Dyck, Ed.	G	L	5-11	165	10-29-50	Warman, Sask.
Harbaruk, Nick	F	R	6-0	190	8-16-43	Drohiczyn, Pol.
Harris, Hugh	F	L	6-0	190	6-07-48	Toronto, Ont.
Holmquist, Leif	F	L	5-11	175	11-22-42	Gaule, Sweden
Karlander, Al	F	L	5-8	174	11-05-46	LacLaHache, B.C.
Keon, Dave	F	L	5-9	167	3-22-40	Noranda, Que.
Leclerc, Renald	F	R	5-11	170	11-12-47	Ville de Vanier, Qu.
Lomenda, Mark	F	R	6-0	186	4-14-54	Esterhazy, Sask.
McDonald, B.	F	R	5-11	190	3-23-45	Toronto, Ont.
Parrizeau, Michel	F	L	5-10	165	4-09-48	Montreal, Que.
Park, Jim	G	L	6-1	190	6-22-52	Toronto, Ont.
Proceviat, Dick	D	L	6-0	180	6-25-46	Whittemouth, Man.
Pumple, Rich	F	L	6-3	200	2-07-48	Montreal, Que.
Rochon, Francois	F	L	5-11	181	4-18-53	Montreal, Que.
Scharf, Ted	F-D	R	5-11	185	10-03-51	Sudbury, Ont.
Sicinski, Bob	C	L	5-11	175	11-31-46	Toronto, Ont.
Stapleton, Pat	D	L	5-8	180	7-04-40	Sarnia, Ont.
Thomas, Reg	F	L	5-10	170	4-21-53	Lambeth, Ont.
Whitlock, Bob	F	R	5-10	175	7-16-49	Charlottetown, PEI
Woytowich, Bob	F	D	6-0	195	8-18-41	Winnipeg, Man.
Wyrozub, Randy	F	L	5-11	180	4-08-50	Lacombe, Alta.
Zimmerman, L.	G	R	5-7	155	7-13-42	Ft. Erie, Ont.



Davey Keon



MARKET SQUARE ARENA



Leif Holmquist makes the save as Bob Woytowich (5) clears the crease.

SCHEDULE

INDIANAPOLIS

OCTOBER

9-Minnesota
10-Minnesota *
15-Cincinnati
17-Edmonton *
19-Winnipeg
21-San Diego *
23-Birmingham
27-San Diego
29-Quebec

NOVEMBER

3-Cincinnati *
4-Cincinnati
7-San Diego *
9-Houston *
10-Phoenix *
13-Cincinnati *
16-Cincinnati
19-Birmingham
20-Winnipeg
23-New England
24-Cincinnati *
25-Quebec
27-Quebec *
28-New England *

DECEMBER

2-Calgary
4-Edmonton
7-Birmingham *
10-San Diego
11-Quebec *
12-Houston
16-Minnesota
17-New England *
19-Birmingham
26-San Diego *
28-Phoenix *
30-Houston *

JANUARY

2-Phoenix
4-Winnipeg *
7-Winnipeg *
8-Calgary *
9-Edmonton *
11-Calgary *
13-New England
14-Minnesota *
15-Edmonton
21-Calgary
23-Birmingham *
25-Quebec *
28-Minnesota
29-Minnesota *
30-New England

FEBRUARY

2-Minnesota
5-Birmingham
8-Houston
9-Cincinnati *
11-Quebec
12-New England *
13-Winnipeg
15-Minnesota *
19-Phoenix
20-Birmingham *
22-Quebec *
25-Edmonton *
27-Calgary *

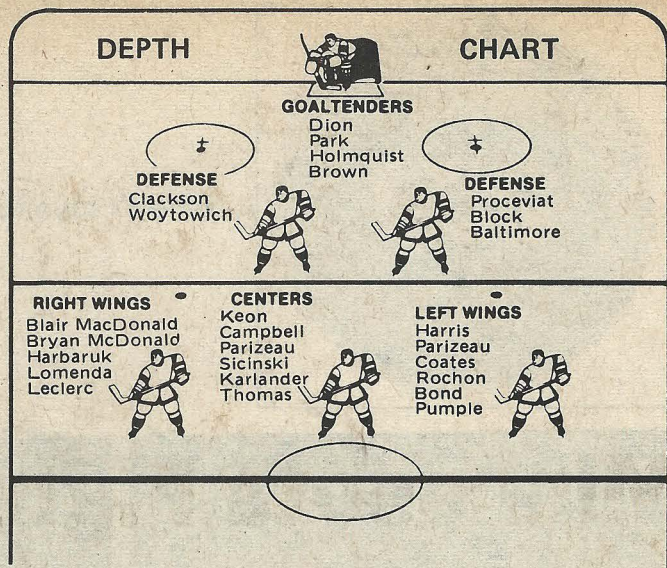
MARCH

4-San Diego
5-Cincinnati *
6-Phoenix
10-Edmonton
12-Birmingham
13-Houston *
15-Calgary
17-Birmingham *
18-Winnipeg
20-Houston
22-Cincinnati
24-Quebec
26-New England *
27-Birmingham *
30-Cincinnati

APRIL

2-New England
6-Phoenix *

* Away



The loss of defenseman Pat Stapleton will hurt the Racers' chances.

1975-76 W.H.A. Statistical Review

INDIANAPOLIS	GP	G	A	TP	PIM	SOG	SC%	WG	IP	PP	SH	LGF	LGA	LGR	L%F	L%A	L%R
Dave Keon	12	3	7	10	2	40	.08	—	10	1	—	8	6	+ 2	.27	.23	+.04
Season Totals	69	29	45	74	6	184	.16	3	63	6	—	62	46	+16	.36	.28	+.08
Renald Leclerc	40	18	21	39	52	152	.12	3	35	7	—	32	31	+ 1	.32	.31	+.01
Season Totals	82	33	38	71	87	252	.13	4	58	7	—	77	67	+10	.31	.30	+.01
Michel Parizeau	23	13	15	28	22	58	.22	1	25	6	—	21	12	+ 9	.34	.22	+.12
Season Totals	81	25	42	67	42	137	.18	1	51	6	—	77	62	+15	.29	.27	+.02
Hugh Harris	41	12	27	39	23	166	.07	1	29	3	—	33	32	+ 1	.32	.32	—
Season Totals	71	17	36	55	42	232	.07	3	41	3	—	48	54	- 6	.25	.31	-.06
Darryl Maggs	36	5	16	21	40	90	.06	—	17	1	—	41	36	+ 5	.43	.40	+.03
Season Totals	78	9	39	48	82	188	.05	1	37	2	—	85	89	- 4	.42	.40	+.02
Al Karlander	79	19	26	45	36	121	.16	3	32	4	—	62	47	+15	.35	.26	+.09
Pat Stapleton	80	4	40	44	48	205	.02	1	31	3	—	84	91	- 7	.47	.49	-.02
Blair MacDonald	56	20	11	31	14	142	.14	1	23	1	—	37	35	+ 2	.30	.26	+.04
Season Totals	85	27	16	43	22	214	.13	1	32	4	—	47	53	- 6	.23	.23	—
Bob Sicinski	70	9	34	43	4	140	.06	2	32	3	—	39	41	- 3	.25	.26	-.01
Nick Harbaruk	76	23	19	42	24	170	.14	4	37	2	2	52	42	+10	.31	.25	+.06
Reg Thomas	80	23	17	40	23	192	.12	2	31	4	—	45	44	+ 1	.25	.24	+.01
Brian McDonald	62	15	18	33	54	117	.13	4	22	1	2	36	42	- 6	.25	.29	-.04
Francois Rochon	19	6	2	8	31	21	.29	—	8	2	—	12	12	—	.23	.22	+.01
Season Totals	60	16	12	29	41	99	.17	—	25	5	—	36	54	-18	.23	.29	-.06
Brian Coates	59	11	16	27	24	72	.15	2	19	2	1	25	30	- 5	.20	.23	-.03
Ken Block	79	1	25	26	28	104	.01	1	24	—	—	78	74	+ 4	.44	.41	+.03
Randy Wyrozub	55	11	14	25	8	79	.14	2	14	5	1	26	30	- 4	.22	.25	-.03
Bob Whitlock	30	7	15	22	16	111	.06	1	15	2	—	22	21	+ 1	.43	.31	+.12
Mark Lomenda	2	0	0	0	0	4	.00	—	—	—	—	0	1	- 1	.00	.25	-.25
Season Totals	39	6	16	22	11	70	.09	—	19	5	—	30	37	- 7	.29	.28	+.01
Ted Scharf	74	7	14	21	56	90	.08	—	14	2	—	25	33	- 8	.15	.19	-.04
Dick Proceviat	73	7	13	20	31	65	.11	2	16	—	—	41	34	+ 7	.25	.20	+.05
Bryon Baltimore	37	1	10	11	30	44	.02	1	9	—	—	47	39	+ 8	.48	.42	+.06
Season Totals	78	2	18	20	62	91	.02	1	16	—	—	81	86	- 5	.39	.39	—
Kim Clackson	77	1	12	13	351	71	.01	—	8	1	—	40	50	-10	.25	.28	-.03
Ron Buchanan	23	4	7	11	4	60	.07	—	9	1	—	7	12	- 5	.12	.21	-.09
Bob Woytowich	42	1	7	8	14	23	.04	—	5	—	—	29	29	—	.36	.32	+.04
Murray Heatley	34	2	5	7	7	46	.04	—	5	—	—	11	18	- 7	.16	.25	-.09
John Sheridan	11	1	2	3	0	9	.11	1	3	—	—	4	9	- 5	.17	.31	.14
Kerry Bond	15	2	0	2	9	20	.10	—	2	—	—	2	9	- 7	.06	.27	-.21
Jim Wiste	7	0	2	2	0	3	.00	—	2	—	—	2	4	- 2	.13	.25	-.12
Jim Park	11	0	1	1	2	0	.00	—	1	—	—	20	21	- 1	—	—	—
Andy Brown	24	0	1	1	0	0	.00	—	1	—	—	56	62	- 6	—	—	—
Bob Roselle	1	0	0	0	0	1	.00	—	—	—	—	0	1	- 1	.00	1.00	-1.00
Bob Jones	2	0	0	0	0	3	.00	—	—	—	—	1	2	- 1	.20	.40	-.20
Glen Critch	3	0	0	0	0	0	.00	—	—	—	—	0	0	—	.00	.00	—
Leif Holmquist	19	0	0	0	2	0	.00	—	—	—	—	37	36	+ 1	—	—	—
Michel Dion	31	0	0	0	2	0	.00	—	—	—	—	65	64	+ 1	—	—	—
Traded Players	123	21	20	41	298	150	.14	4	36	6	—	53	70	-17	.21	.25	-.04
Racers Totals	80	245	420	665	1301	2566	.10	35	526	59	6	180	186	- 6	—	—	—
Opponent Totals	80	247	408	655	1309	2515	.10	39	541	52	9	186	180	+ 6	—	—	—

GOALTENDERS	GPI	MIN	W	L	T	PCT	SOG	GA	SVS	GAA	EN	SA%	GAF	SG	SP
INDIANAPOLIS	80	4879	35	39	6	.475	2512	244	2268	3.00	3	.903	10.30	1	95
Michel Dion	31	1860	14	15	1	.483	942	85	857	2.74	1	.910	11.08	1	37
Jim Park	11	572	6	4	0	.600	297	23	274	2.41	—	.923	12.91	—	12
Leif Holmquist	19	1079	6	9	3	.417	522	54	468	3.00	2	.897	9.67	—	20
Andy Brown	24	1368	9	11	2	.455	751	82	669	3.60	—	.891	9.16	1	26
OPPONENTS	80	4880	39	35	6	.525	2562	241	2321	2.96	4	.906	10.63	4	94

POWERPLAY OPPORTUNITIES

	GP	OPP/PM	AVG	OPP	GF	GA	PROF.	FREQ	GP	PIM	AVG	SIT	GF	GA	EFF.	FREQ
At Home	40	672	16.8	149	39	6	26.2	3.82	40	634	15.9	125	3	22	82.4	5.68
On Road	40	637	15.9	106	20	3	19.0	5.25	40	667	16.7	127	3	30	76.4	4.23
Overall	80	1309	16.4	254	59	9	23.2	4.31	80	1301	16.3	252	6	52	79.4	4.85

SHORTHANDED SITUATIONS

	GP	PIM	AVG	SIT	GF	GA	EFF.	FREQ
At Home	40	634	15.9	125	3	22	82.4	5.68
On Road	40	667	16.7	127	3	30	76.4	4.23
Overall	80	1301	16.3	252	6	52	79.4	4.85



JOHNNY WILSON

Minnesota Fighting Saints

One more time in the Twin Cities

The final solution to the Cleveland problem was to transfer the Crusade to the St. Paul Civic Center wherein the cudgels between the WHA and NHL could once more be drawn. Many in the WHA feel the new St. Paul sextet nee Crusaders, are a better team than the established North Stars. Most of the old Fighting Saints buffs felt the same way.

Coach Johnny Wilson is still working with the Nick Miletti-owned team. And Glen Sonmor, the Fighting Saints' general manager, will be back at his old stand on his home turf. That makes for a good front office team.

Minnesota is suspect because of the loss of goalie Gerry Cheevers last year, while the team was still in Cleveland, and because of the release granted to Paul Shmyr, an all star defenseman, who wants back into the NHL.

Whether Bob Johnson, Cam Newton, and Bob Whidden can do the

job Cheevers did is problematical. No one will take the place of Shmyr, although flashy Tom Edur is one of the better young defensemen in the WHA. Ray McKay is the other veteran with ability, upon whom Wilson will depend. Spare parts Paul Baxter, Ray Clearwater, Randy Legge and Pat Westrum are just that. Bryan Maxwell, in his second year, may blossom.

The Cleveland attack notched only 273 goals last year, the most in the weak East, but their defense allowed 279—and it had Cheevers for half that time. Still, the situation in Cleveland was dispiriting with general manager Jack Vivian in conflict with his players, and the players fearing a mid-season drop out. At one time the Crusaders even wore black arm bands in protest over a trip their owner had taken to Kansas City to check that area out.

In a new hockey oriented clime, with a modern building, the St. Paul

organization may be able to pick up the sparks left by the Fighting Saints. They possess quality players in centers Ron Ward and Jim Harrison, along with a potential star in young Gary MacGregor, who fell afoul of the sophomore jinx last year. Gerry Pinder does a workmanlike job on the wing, and so does Danny Gruen and Garry Jarrett.

Sonmor swapped aging winger and point man Wayne Connelly to New England for winger Fred O'Donnell and center Bob McManama. He hopes that Al McDonough, who can put the puck in the net, bounces back from a poor 1975-76 effort.

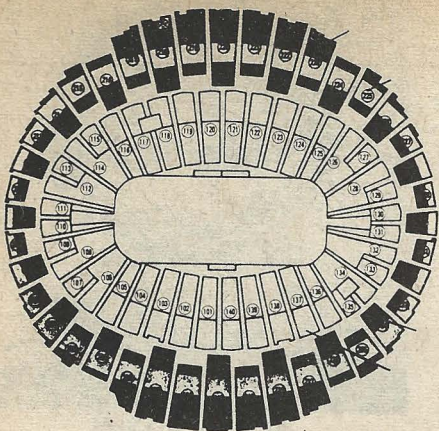
Minnesota might surprise, but they need to shore up their goaltending and defense to move up. And their scorers must work at peak potential in order to avoid Cleveland's long time problem, not enough goals.

ROSTER

	POS	S	HT	WT	BIRTH DATE	BIRTH PLACE
Baxter, Paul	D	R	5-11	200	10-25-55	Winnipeg, Man.
Clearwater, Ray	D	L	5-11	175	11-10-42	Winnipeg, Man.
Caron, Jacques	G	L	6-1	182	4-21-39	Noranda, Que.
Carlson, Jeff	F	R	6-3	210	7-30-53	Virginia, Minn.
Carlson, Steve	F	L	6-3	180	8-26-55	Virginia, Minn.
Edur, Tom	D	R	6-1	185	11-18-54	Toronto, Ont.
Evo, Bill	RW	L	6-2	187	4-21-54	Royal Oak, Mich.
Gruen, Danny	LW	L	5-11	180	6-26-52	Thunder Bay, Ont.
Harrison, Jim	C	R	5-11	180	7-09-47	Bonnyville, Alta.
Holbrook, Terry	RW	R	6-0	185	7-11-50	Watford, Ont.
Jarrett, Gary	LW	L	5-8	180	9-03-42	Toronto, Ont.
Johnson, Bob	G	L	6-1	185	11-12-48	Farmington, Mich.
Legge, Barry	D	L	6-0	186	10-22-54	Winnipeg, Man.
Legge, Randy	D	R	5-11	184	12-16-45	Newmarket, Ont.
Mac Neil, Bernie	F	L	5-11	180	3-07-50	Sudbury, Ont.
McDonough, Al	F	R	6-0	165	6-06-50	St. Catharines, Ont.
McManama, Bob	F	L	6-0	180	10-07-51	Belmont, Mass.
MacGregor, Gary	F	L	5-9	170	9-21-54	Kingston, Ont.
Maxwell, Bryan	D	L	6-4	210	9-07-55	Lethbridge, Alta.
McKay, Ray	D	L	6-4	183	8-22-46	Edmonton, Alta.
Newton, Cam	F	L	5-10	185	2-25-50	Peterborough, Ont.
O'Donnell, Fred	F	R	5-10	175	12-06-49	Kingston, Ont.
Pinder, Gerry	F	R	5-8	165	9-15-48	Saskatoon, Sask.
Shmyr, Paul	F	L	5-11	175	1-28-46	Cudworth, Sask.
Stewart, John A.	F	L	6-0	180	5-16-50	Eriksdale, Man.
Stewart, John C.	F	L	5-11	170	1-02-54	Toronto, Ont.
Ward, Ron	F	R	5-11	175	9-12-44	Cornwall, Ont.
Westrum, Pat	D	L	5-10	185	12-22-50	Toronto, Ont.
Whidden, Robt	G	L	5-10	165	7-27-46	Sudbury, Ont.



Ron Ward



CIVIC CENTER



Jim Harrison will be one of Minnesota's top scoring threats.

SCHEDULE

MINNESOTA

OCTOBER

- 7-Cincinnati *
- 9-Indianapolis *
- 10-Indianapolis
- 14-Phoenix *
- 15-San Diego
- 17-Birmingham
- 19-Cincinnati
- 22-Calgary
- 26-San Diego
- 28-Houston *
- 30-Quebec *

NOVEMBER

- 2-Calgary *
- 3-Edmonton *
- 5-Winnipeg *
- 7-Phoenix
- 11-New England
- 13-Quebec *
- 18-Quebec
- 20-New England *
- 21-Calgary
- 23-Cincinnati
- 26-Quebec
- 27-New England *
- 28-Birmingham *

DECEMBER

- 3-Winnipeg
- 5-Edmonton
- 7-New England
- 8-Calgary *
- 10-Calgary
- 12-San Diego
- 15-Cincinnati *
- 16-Indianapolis *
- 18-Cincinnati
- 22-Quebec
- 26-New England *
- 28-New England
- 30-Birmingham *

JANUARY

- 2-Birmingham
- 7-Houston
- 8-Edmonton
- 12-Birmingham
- 14-Indianapolis
- 15-Quebec *
- 16-New England *
- 21-Houston *
- 22-San Diego *
- 26-Phoenix
- 28-Indianapolis *
- 29-Indianapolis
- 30-Birmingham *

FEBRUARY

- 1-Quebec *
- 2-Indianapolis *
- 5-Cincinnati *
- 6-New England *
- 10-Houston
- 12-Cincinnati
- 15-Indianapolis
- 18-Quebec
- 20-Houston
- 24-San Diego *
- 25-Phoenix *
- 27-Edmonton *

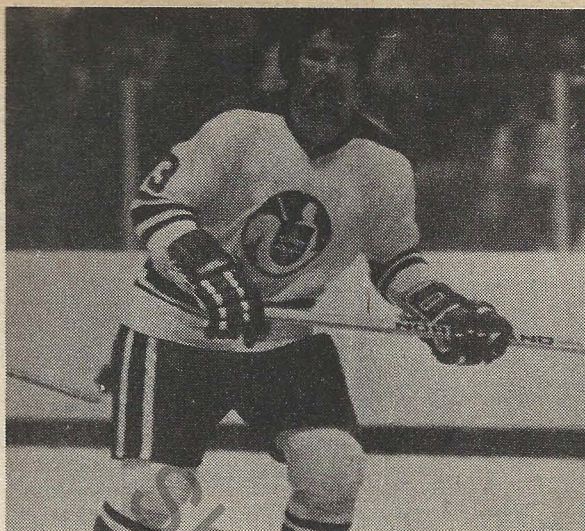
MARCH

- 1-Calgary *
- 3-Edmonton *
- 4-Winnipeg *
- 6-Winnipeg
- 8-Houston *
- 9-Birmingham *
- 11-Winnipeg *
- 13-New England
- 15-Edmonton
- 18-Cincinnati *
- 19-Phoenix *
- 20-San Diego *
- 23-New England
- 26-Phoenix
- 27-Quebec *
- 30-Quebec

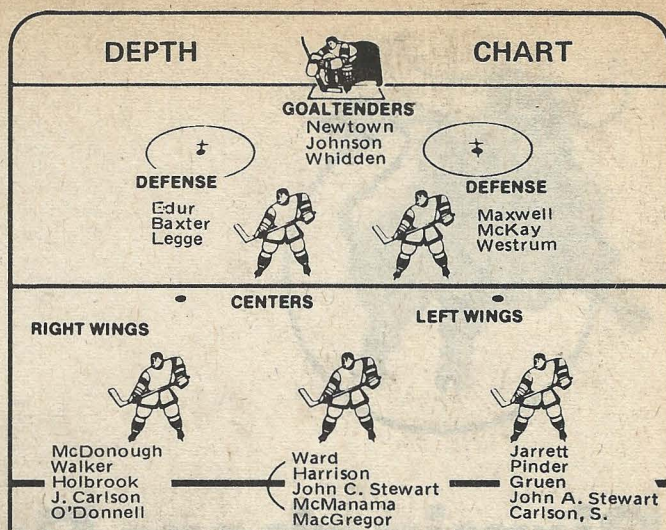
APRIL

- 3-Birmingham
- 6-Winnipeg

*Away



Defenseman Paul Shmyr is reported to be interested in jumping back to the N.H.L.



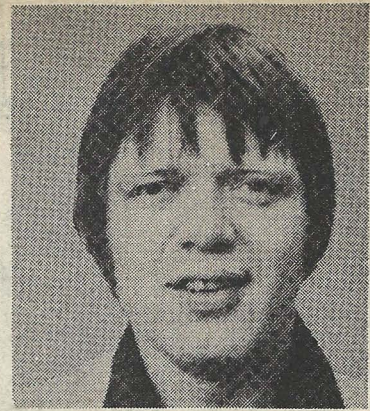
1975-76 W.H.A. Statistical Review

CLEVELAND	GP	G	A	TP	PIM	SOG	SC%	WG	IP	PP	SH	LGF	LGA	LGR	L%F	L%A	L%R
Ron Ward	75	32	50	82	24	172	.19	2	64	11	2	61	47	+14	.33	.22	+11
Jim Harrison	59	34	38	72	62	216	.16	5	55	9	2	56	56	-	.39	.35	+04
Rich Leduc	79	36	22	58	76	286	.13	6	47	8	2	64	57	+7	.34	.27	+07
Wayne Connelly	12	5	2	7	4	39	.13	1	6	3	-	6	7	-1	.21	.23	-02
Season Totals	71	29	25	54	23	242	.12	3	40	7	-	52	44	+8	.30	.23	+07
Gerry Pinder	79	21	30	51	118	201	.10	2	33	8	3	61	69	-8	.32	.32	-
Danny Gruen	80	26	24	50	72	173	.15	4	41	5	-	55	46	+9	.28	.21	+07
Paul Shmyr	70	6	44	50	101	165	.04	2	41	4	1	87	71	+16	.51	.36	+15
Al McDonough	80	23	22	45	19	229	.10	1	34	4	-	58	57	+1	.30	.26	+04
Russ Walker	72	23	15	38	122	161	.14	2	30	5	-	51	58	-7	.29	.29	-
Gary MacGregor	35	5	3	8	6	45	.11	2	7	4	-	10	26	-16	.12	.29	-17
Season Totals	83	21	17	38	24	172	.12	2	31	7	-	34	52	-18	.19	.24	-05
Tom Edur	80	7	28	35	62	151	.05	-	30	3	-	89	74	+15	.46	.34	+12
Gary Jarrett	69	16	17	33	22	128	.13	1	16	1	-	35	39	-4	.21	.21	-
John A. Stewart	79	12	21	33	43	166	.07	3	26	-	-	44	47	-3	.24	.22	+02
Juhani Tamminen	65	7	14	21	0	101	.07	-	12	2	-	25	33	-8	.16	.18	-02
Barry Legge, Clv	35	0	7	7	22	28	.00	-	4	-	-	14	26	-8	.18	.28	-10
Season Totals	75	6	15	21	37	87	.07	1	17	4	-	54	73	-19	.29	.33	-04
Bryan Maxwell	73	3	14	17	177	67	.05	1	15	-	-	51	64	-13	.29	.33	-04
Ray McKay	68	3	10	13	44	50	.06	1	9	1	-	34	42	-8	.21	.22	-01
John C. Stewart	42	2	9	11	15	68	.03	-	9	-	-	17	19	-2	.17	.16	+01
Paul Baxter	67	3	7	10	201	65	.05	1	8	1	-	31	38	-7	.19	.21	-02
Bill Evo, Clv	40	1	5	6	32	30	.03	-	4	-	-	9	24	-15	.09	.22	-13
Season Totals	48	1	9	10	32	34	.03	-	4	-	-	14	29	-15	.11	.21	-10
Randy Legge	44	1	8	9	28	41	.03	-	9	-	-	40	47	-7	.38	.41	-03
Season Totals	45	1	8	9	28	41	.03	-	9	-	-	41	47	-6	.37	.40	-03
Terry Holbrook	15	1	2	3	6	17	.06	-	-	-	1	2	3	-1	.06	.09	-03
Mike Conroy	4	0	1	1	0	0	.00	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	.25	-	-
Cam Newton, Clv	15	0	1	1	0	0	.00	-	-	-	-	28	35	-7	-	-	-
Season Totals	26	0	1	1	0	0	.00	-	-	-	-	56	61	-5	-	-	-
Bob Johnson	18	0	0	0	2	0	.00	-	-	-	-	46	44	+2	-	-	-
Season Totals	42	0	1	1	9	0	.00	-	1	-	-	100	117	-17	-	-	-
John Voss	0	0	0	0	0	0	.00	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	-	-	-
Jacques Caron	2	0	0	0	0	0	.00	-	-	-	-	7	7	-	-	-	-
Brian Bowles	3	0	0	0	0	0	.00	-	-	-	-	0	2	-2	.00	.25	-.25
Bob Whidden	21	0	0	0	2	0	.00	-	-	-	-	51	56	-5	-	-	-
Gerry Cheevers	28	0	0	0	15	0	.00	-	-	-	-	61	71	-10	-	-	-
Traded Players	33	4	7	11	33	56	.11	1	10	1	-	14	30	-16	-	-	-
Crusaders Totals	80	273	423	696	1356	2730	.10	35	550	69	11	193	216	-23	-	-	-
Opponent Totals	80	279	462	741	1339	2632	.11	40	575	49	14	216	193	+23	-	-	-

GOALTENDERS	GPI	MIN	W	L	T	PCT.	SOG	GA	SVS	GAA	EN	SA%	GAF	SG	SP
CLEVELAND	80	4869	35	40	5	.469	2630	277	2353	3.41	2	.895	9.49	3	83
Cam Newton, Clv	15	896	7	7	1	.500	468	48	420	3.21	-	.897	9.75	-	17
Season Totals	25	1469	11	13	1	.460	782	83	699	3.39	-	.894	9.42	1	27
Bob Whidden	21	1230	7	11	2	.400	650	70	580	3.41	1	.892	9.29	1	21
Gerry Cheevers	28	1570	11	14	1	.442	834	95	739	3.58	1	.886	8.78	1	25
Bob Johnson	18	1043	9	8	0	.529	601	56	545	3.22	-	.907	10.73	1	19
Season Totals	42	2388	16	21	1	.434	1290	144	1146	3.62	-	.888	8.96	1	40
Jacques Caron	2	130	1	0	1	.750	77	8	69	3.69	-	.896	9.63	-	1
OPPONENTS	80	4871	40	35	5	.531	2726	269	2457	3.31	4	.901	10.13	4	91

POWERPLAY OPPORTUNITIES	GP	OFF	PIM	AVG.	OPP	GF	GA	PROF.	FREQ
At Home	40	749	18.7	152	40	7	26.3	3.80	
On Road	40	590	14.8	140	29	7	20.7	4.83	
Overall	80	1339	16.7	292	69	14	23.6	4.23	

SHORTHANDED SITUATIONS	GP	PIM	AVG.	SIT	GF	GA	EFF.	FREQ
At Home	40	659	16.5	146	8	18	87.7	8.11
On Road	40	697	17.4	148	3	31	79.1	4.77
Overall	80	1356	17.0	294	11	49	83.3	6.00



GILLES LEGER

Birmingham Bulls

Pucks, sticks, 'n grits

The division's southerly tier—both geographically and in the standings—will be manned by Birmingham.

The Bulls, late of Toronto, have Paul Henderson, Frank Mahovlich, Vaclav Nedomansky and WHA rookie-of-the-year Mark Napier.

It is a sad situation to consider the plight of Mahovlich and Henderson. Frank, the Big M, for years was second only to Bobby Hull among hockey's left wingers. He was a proud Stanley Cup winner in both Toronto and Montreal and once teamed with Gordie Howe, when both men were in their primes as superstars, to form one of the most potent lines in NHL history.

Mahovlich left the NHL as its fourth highest scorer. He scored 533 NHL goals. He now seems destined to close out an otherwise illustrious career in that hotbed of hockey,

Birmingham.

Henderson is in a somewhat similar position. The hero of an entire nation when he starred for Team Canada in 1972 against the Soviet Union's national team, Paul left the NHL for the Toronto Toros. He is all but forgotten now and one must wonder how many Alabamans know who he is. He scored the winning goal in three straight games against Russia.

Nor can Napier or Nedomansky be happy with Birmingham. Dissension may be rampant among the Bulls this year. Big Ned had 98 points, and can't be replaced. Whether Gilles Leger, the general manager-coach can keep control is questionable.

Even with the above offensive threats, the Bulls are destined for the lower runs of the East. They have, to put it simply, no defense. They scored 335 goals, but lost more 8-7 games than any team in hockey.

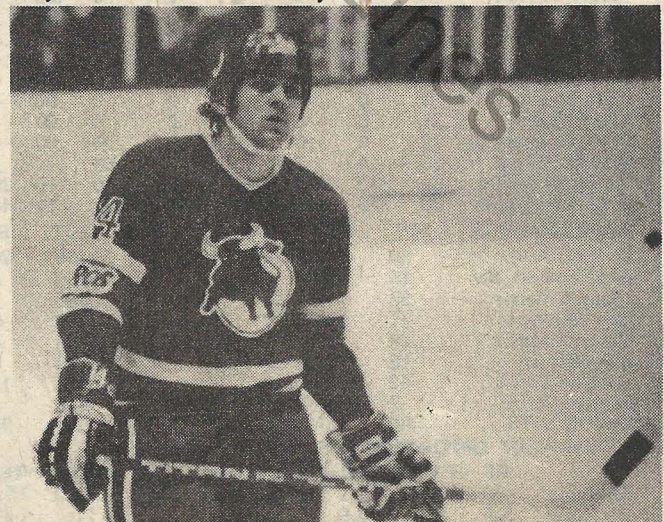
In Toronto, the Toros allowed 398 goals, the worst number in major league hockey. Only Jim Dorey can be considered of professional calibre on the blue line corps and there are rumors he wants out.

The team used six goaltenders last season. Ex-Fighting Saint John Garrett is by far the best of the lot, but he may yearn for the Minnesota winters after being left out in the cold by the Bulls' alleged defense. His backup figures to be Mario Vien or Dave Tataryn.

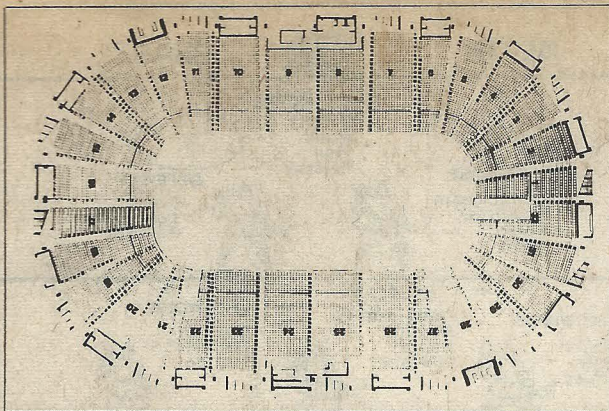
With all of these problems inherent in moving to new and unexplored territory, Birmingham owner John Bassett expects heavy community interest will make the Bulls successful. Considering the failure of the WFL in Birmingham, a lively football city, one must wonder about the chances of hockey there.

ROSTER

POS	S	HT	WT	BIRTH DATE	BIRTH PLACE
Atkinson, Steve	RW	R	6-0	172	10-16-48 Toronto, Ont.
Bilodeau, Gilles					
Butters, Bill	D	R	5-10	185	1-10-51 St. Paul, Minn.
Cunningham, R.	DD	L	5-11	180	3-03-51 Toronto, Ont.
Dorey, Jim	DD	L	6-1	192	8-17-47 Kingston, Ont.
D'Alvise, Bob	F	L	5-11	180	12-23-52
Farda, Richard	F	L	5-9	175	11-08-45 Brno, Czech.
Folco, Peter	DD	L	6-0	183	8-13-53 Montreal, Que.
Garrett, John	GG	L	5-8	165	6-17-51 Trenton, Ont.
Gibbons, Gerard	DD	L	6-3	185	1-07-53 St. John's, Nfld.
Henderson, Paul	F	R	5-11	180	1-28-43 Kincardine, Ont.
Heaver, Paul	DD	R	6-1	190	2-15-55 London, England
Hoganson, Dale	DD	L	5-10	190	7-08-49 N. Battleford, Sask.
Jacques, Jeff	F	R	5-11	180	4-04-53 Preston, Ont.
Mahovlich, Frank	F	L	6-1	205	1-10-38 Timmins, Ont.
Marrin, Peter	F	R	5-10	160	8-08-53 Toronto, Ont.
Morin, Wayne	F	L	5-10	182	1-28-57 Toronto, Ont.
Napier, Mark	F	L	6-1	210	3-14-44 Hodonin, Czech.
Nedomansky, V.					
Neeld, Greg					
Nistico, Lou	F	L	5-7	170	1-25-53 Thunder Bay, Ont.
Phaneuf, Jean Luc	F	L	5-8	160	10-26-55
Rollins, Jerry	DD	R	6-3	200	3-22-55 New Westminster, BC
Simpson, Tom	F	R	5-9	190	8-15-52 Bowmanville, Ont.
Syvret, Dave					
Tataryn, Dave					
Turkiewicz, Jim	D	L	5-9	170	4-13-55 Peterborough, Ont.
Vien, Mario					
Wood, Wayne	G	L	6-1	190	8-07-55
					6-05-51 Toronto, Ont.



Vaclav Nedomansky



**JEFFERSON COUNTY
CIVIC CENTER**



Young Mark Napier is one of the coming stars of the W.H.A.

SCHEDULE

BIRMINGHAM

OCTOBER

- 8-Houston
- 10-Quebec *
- 12-Calgary
- 14-Cincinnati
- 16-Houston *
- 17-Minnesota *
- 19-Quebec
- 21-Houston
- 23-Indianapolis *
- 24-Winnipeg *
- 26-Calgary *
- 28-Edmonton
- 30-New England *

NOVEMBER

- 2-San Diego
- 4-Phoenix
- 6-Quebec *
- 9-Quebec *
- 11-San Diego
- 13-Edmonton
- 16-New England
- 17-New England *
- 19-Indianapolis *
- 21-San Diego
- 23-Calgary
- 25-New England
- 27-Cincinnati *
- 28-Minnesota
- 30-Cincinnati

DECEMBER

- 2-Edmonton
- 7-Indianapolis
- 10-Winnipeg *
- 12-Edmonton *
- 15-Phoenix *
- 18-New England *
- 19-Indianapolis *
- 21-Quebec
- 22-Cincinnati *
- 26-Houston
- 30-Minnesota

JANUARY

- 2-Minnesota *
- 4-Phoenix
- 6-San Diego *
- 7-Cincinnati *
- 9-Winnipeg *
- 12-Minnesota *
- 14-Houston *
- 19-Quebec
- 23-Indianapolis
- 27-Winnipeg
- 30-Minnesota

FEBRUARY

- 1-New England
- 2-Cincinnati *
- 4-Houston *
- 5-Indianapolis *
- 9-Phoenix *
- 12-San Diego *
- 15-Phoenix
- 18-New England *
- 20-Indianapolis
- 22-Cincinnati
- 24-Quebec
- 26-Quebec *

MARCH

- 3-Calgary *
- 6-Edmonton *
- 9-Minnesota
- 11-New England
- 12-Indianapolis *
- 13-Cincinnati *
- 15-Cincinnati
- 17-Indianapolis
- 20-Winnipeg
- 22-Calgary
- 23-Phoenix *
- 26-San Diego *
- 27-Indianapolis
- 29-Cincinnati

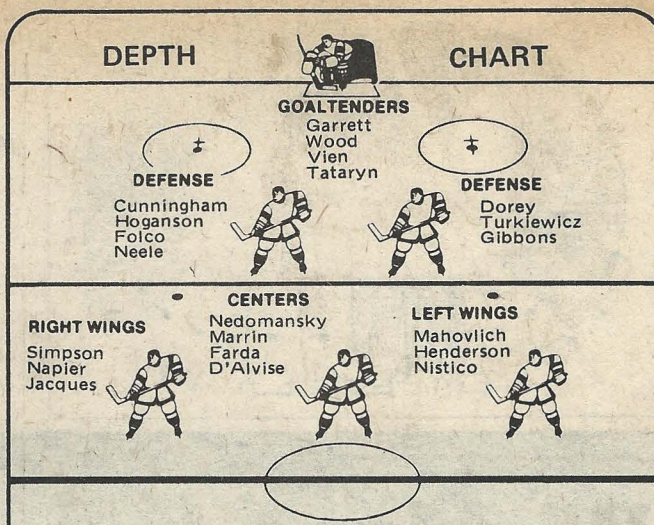
APRIL

- 2-Winnipeg
- 3-Minnesota *
- 5-Calgary *
- 6-Edmonton *

*Away



Goaltender John Garrett.



1975-76 W.H.A. Statistical Review

TORONTO	GP	G	A	TP	PIM	SOG	SC%	WG	IP	PP	SH	LGF	LGA	LGR	L%F	L%A	L%R
Vaclav Nedomansky	81	56	42	98	8	328	.17	7	78	6	-	106	108	-2	.39	.33	+.06
Mark Napier	78	43	50	93	20	245	.18	2	73	10	3	103	103	-	.38	.32	+.06
Frank Mahovlich	75	34	55	89	14	239	.14	1	68	6	1	95	111	-16	.37	.37	--
Jim Dorey	74	9	51	60	134	163	.06	-	43	3	2	111	132	-21	.43	.43	--
Paul Henderson	65	26	29	55	22	179	.15	3	36	8	1	57	77	-20	.27	.30	-.03
Richard Farda	63	19	35	54	8	109	.17	1	39	2	-	78	83	-5	.35	.31	+.04
Jeff Jacques	81	17	33	50	113	101	.17	1	40	1	-	66	74	-8	.24	.22	+.02
Tom Simpson	73	20	21	41	15	159	.13	-	30	5	-	67	82	-15	.28	.27	+.01
Peter Marrin	64	22	16	38	16	105	.21	4	29	2	-	51	63	-12	.23	.24	-.01
Jim Turkiewicz	77	9	29	38	55	111	.08	1	32	2	-	113	126	-13	.45	.40	+.05
Lou Nistico	65	12	22	34	120	154	.08	1	25	1	-	43	63	-20	.21	.24	-.03
Rick Cunningham	36	5	14	19	57	58	.09	-	17	-	-	53	52	+1	.42	.37	+.05
Jean-Luc Phaneuf	48	8	8	16	4	65	.12	-	11	1	-	34	50	-16	.22	.26	-.04
Paul Heaver	66	2	12	14	83	42	.05	-	9	-	-	73	77	-4	.31	.27	+.04
Bob D'Alvise	59	5	8	13	10	61	.08	-	8	1	2	13	26	-13	.06	.11	-.05
Jerry Zyrmia	17	0	5	5	21	13	.00	-	4	-	-	21	35	-14	.43	.57	-.14
Season Totals	39	0	13	13	37	31	.00	-	10	-	-	41	53	-12	.34	.47	-.13
Jerry Rollins	52	5	7	12	185	59	.08	-	8	-	-	45	65	-20	.25	.33	-.08
Mike Amodeo	31	4	8	12	35	33	.12	2	11	1	-	29	36	-7	.28	.31	-.03
Dave Syvret	50	1	11	12	14	36	.03	-	11	-	-	46	61	-15	.43	.45	-.02
Tony Featherstone	32	4	7	11	5	33	.12	-	8	1	-	20	30	-10	.18	.24	-.06
Peter Folco	19	1	8	9	15	18	.06	-	8	-	-	26	33	-7	.38	.46	-.08
Steve Atkinson	52	2	6	8	22	35	.06	-	8	-	-	8	15	-7	.06	.09	-.03
Rick Foley	11	1	2	3	6	15	.07	-	3	1	-	9	17	-8	.29	.46	-.17
Gerard Gibbons	5	1	0	1	7	3	.33	-	1	-	-	6	7	-1	.32	.26	+.06
Gilles Bilodeau	14	0	1	1	38	5	.00	-	1	-	-	4	4	-	.09	.08	+.01
Greg Neeld	17	0	1	1	18	10	.00	-	-	-	-	5	21	-16	.10	.26	-.16
Wayne Wood, Tor.	13	0	1	1	0	0	.00	-	-	-	-	48	51	-3	-GOALTENDER-		
Season Totals	32	0	1	1	4	0	.00	-	-	-	-	89	86	+3	-GOALTENDER-		
John Garrett	9	0	1	1	0	0	.00	-	1	-	-	25	30	-5	-GOALTENDER-		
Season Totals	61	0	1	1	6	0	.00	-	1	-	-	166	151	+15	-GOALTENDER-		
George Kuzmich	1	0	0	0	0	0	.00	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	.00	.00	--
John Van Horlick	2	0	0	0	12	0	.00	-	-	-	-	1	2	-1	.13	.15	-.02
Jack Gibson	2	0	0	0	0	5	.00	-	-	-	-	0	2	-2	.00	.25	-.25
Paul Crowley	4	0	0	0	0	5	.00	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	.11	.06	+.05
Les Binkley	7	0	0	0	0	0	.00	-	-	-	-	17	28	-11	-GOALTENDER-		
Jim Shaw	16	0	0	0	0	0	.00	-	-	-	-	51	51	-	-GOALTENDER-		
Dave Tataryn	23	0	0	0	2	0	.00	-	-	-	-	66	89	-23	-GOALTENDER-		
Mario Vien	25	0	0	0	2	0	.00	-	-	-	-	65	82	-17	-GOALTENDER-		
Traded Players	62	28	38	66	32	142	.20	1	53	3	-	82	92	-10	.38	.35	+.03
Toros Totals	81	335	523	858	1099	2573	.13	24	660	54	9	272	331	-59			
Opponent Totals	81	398	647	1045	1086	3159	.13	52	809	59	7	331	272	+59			

GOALTENDERS	GPI	MIN	W	L	T	PCT	SOG	GA	SVS	GAA	EN	SA%	GAF	SG	SP
TORONTO	81	4931	24	52	5	.327	3156	395	2761	4.81	3	.875	7.99	1	45
John Garrett	9	551	3	6	0	.333	349	33	316	3.59	-	.905	10.58	1	8
Season Totals	61	3720	29	28	4	.508	2022	210	1872	3.38	3	.926	9.63	3	64
Wayne Wood	13	781	6	7	0	.462	474	62	412	4.76	-	.869	7.65	-	9
Season Totals	32	1661	14	10	1	.580	889	107	782	3.87	-	.880	8.31	1	24
Dave Tataryn	23	1261	7	12	1	.375	786	100	686	4.76	3	.873	7.86	-	7
Jim Shaw	16	777	4	7	1	.375	506	63	443	4.86	-	.875	8.03	-	8
Mario Vien	26	1228	4	14	3	.262	830	105	725	5.13	-	.873	7.91	-	11
Les Binkley	7	335	0	6	0	.000	212	32	180	5.73	-	.849	6.63	-	2
OPPONENTS	81	4935	52	24	5	.672	2570	332	2238	4.04	3	.871	7.74	1	75

POWERPLAY OPPORTUNITIES

	GP	OPP/PIM	AVG	OPP	GF	GA	PROF.	FREQ	GP	PIM	AVG	SIT	GF	GA	EFF.	FREQ
At Home	40	554	13.9	161	33	2	20.5	4.88	40	515	12.9	126	6	23	21.7	5.48
On Road	41	532	13.0	118	21	5	17.8	5.62	41	584	14.2	125	3	36	71.2	3.47
Overall	81	1086	13.4	279	54	7	19.4	5.17	81	1099	13.6	251	9	59	76.5	4.25



West Division

Winnipeg Jets

Will Hull and Scandinavia repeat?

The West belongs to Winnipeg, IF. That is a very big IF, because Bobby Hull may not return to play another season with the Jets. Hull is disappointed with the development of the WHA on all levels, especially in the image area, where he thinks violence has taken over.

With Hull in uniform, the Jets will lap the field. They finished with 106 points last year, the same total as Houston and only two more than Quebec. This season it won't be that close.

Joining Hull up front to form one of hockey's most foremost lines are Ulf Nilsson and Anders Hedberg. Nilsson was fourth in league scoring in 1975-76 with 38-76-114. Hedberg was seventh with 50-55-105, while Hull was runner-up to Tardif with 53-70-123. Pete Sullivan got 71 points, Veli-Pekka Ketola 68, Willy Lindstrom 59, and Mike Ford, a defenseman, 56.

Defensively, the Jets will miss Larry Hornung, a steady sort who moved the puck and kept the slot free of pesky opponents. Ted Green and Larry Hillman are over-the-hill—they've been so ever since they left the NHL—but Mike Ford, Hexi Riihiraanta, Thommie Bergman and Lars Erik Sjoberg can handle the defensive chores. Ford is a good point man.

Maskless Joe Daley has been the Jets intrepid goal-stopper since their inception in the WHA. He returns to guard the cords along with Curt Larsson, a duo that was second in goals-allowed for last season. It is reasonable to assume the Jets' tandem will top the league's goaltenders this year.

But anything the Jets do is dependent on Hull. If Bobby wants to play again, Nilsson and Hedberg have a top gunner. . . if he quits, or goes back to the NHL, Winnipeg and the WHA are in trouble.



BOBBY KROMM

Many observers, including this one, feel that the WHA is on its last legs. Once Hull and Gordie Howe retire, the league will lose whatever charm it has. The Golden Jet gambled on the new loop back in 1972, but it has fallen far short of his expectations.

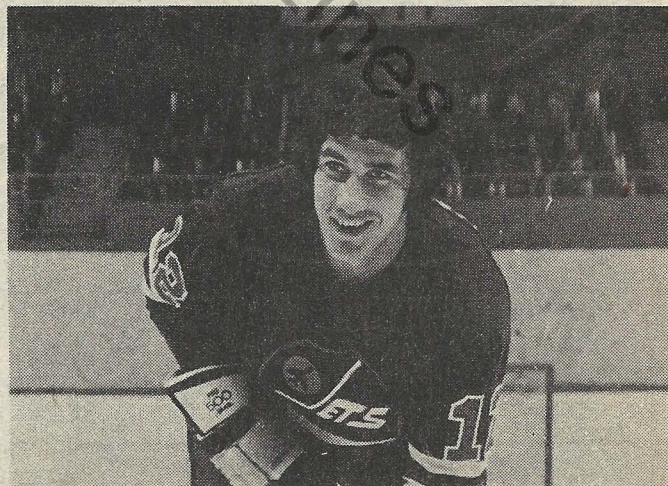
Winnipeg isn't exactly the hub of the media, and Hull's accomplishments, especially his 77 goal binge in 1974-75, have been overlooked. They drew 347,838 averaging 8,696 per game.

Bobby was instrumental in adding the European look to professional hockey and the Jets roster is loaded with talented Scandinavians like Hedberg, Nilsson, Bergman and Sjoberg. They expect newcomer Dan Labretten of Leksand in Sweden to join the starry Swedes.

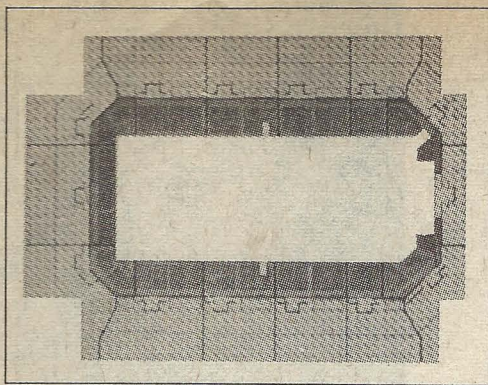
Many experts overlook the work of Coach Bobby Kromm, long in the Chicago Black Hawks system, Kromm won in 1975-76 with the same players Hull couldn't win with in the past.

ROSTER

	POS	S	HT	WT	BIRTH DATE	BIRTH PLACE
Andreachuk, R	F	R	6-0	175	7-05-54	Lethbridge, Alta.
Ashton, Ron	F	L	6-2	210	5-08-54	Regina, Sask.
Asmundson, D	D	R	6-2	195	8-17-43	Vita, Man.
Bergman, Thom	D	L	6-3	199	12-10-47	Munkfors, Sweden
Daley, Joe	G	L	5-9	160	2-20-43	E. Kildonan, Man.
Ford, Mike	D	R	6-1	185	7-26-52	Ottawa, Ont.
Green, Ted	D	R	5-11	195	3-23-40	St. Boniface, Man.
Gulindon, Bob	F	L	5-9	160	11-19-50	Labelle, Que.
Hedberg, Anders	F	L	5-11	176	2-25-51	Ornskoldsvik, Swe
Hillman, Larry	D	L	6-0	181	2-05-37	Kirkland Lk, Ont.
Hull, Bobby	F	L	5-10	193	1-03-39	Pt. Anne, Ont.
Ketola, V-P	F	L	6-3	207	3-28-48	Pori, Finland
Labretten, Dan	G	F				Sweden
Larsson, Curt	G	L	5-10	171	12-11-44	Nykipping, Swed.
Lesuk, Bill	F	L	5-9	185	11-01-46	Moose Jaw, Sask.
Lindh, Mats	F	L	6-1	180	9-12-47	Sweden
Lindstrom, Willy	F	L	6-0	180	5-05-51	Sweden
Miller, Perry	F	L	6-1	194	6-24-52	Winnipeg, Man.
Moffat, Lyle	F	L	5-10	180	3-19-48	Calgary, Alta.
Nilsson, Ulf	F	R	5-11	176	5-11-50	Leksand, Sweden
Odrovski, Gerry	D	L	5-10	190	10-04-38	Trout Creek, Ont.
Riihiraanta, Helkko	D	L	5-11	190	10-04-48	Helsinki, Finland
Sjoberg, Lars Erik	F	L	5-8	179	4-05-44	Falun, Sweden
Sullivan, Peter	F	L	5-9	165	7-25-51	Toronto, Ont.



Veli-Pekka Ketola



WINNIPEG ARENA



Bobby Hull (left) celebrates with Anders Hedberg.

SCHEDULE

WINNIPEG

OCTOBER

8-Calgary
10-New England
15-Edmonton*
16-Phoenix*
17-San Diego*
19-Indianapolis
22-Phoenix
24-Birmingham
29-Edmonton
31-San Diego

NOVEMBER

2-Houston
5-Minnesota
6-Cincinnati*
7-Edmonton
9-New England
11-Calgary*
14-Calgary*
16-Quebec
19-New England*
20-Indianapolis*
21-Cincinnati
23-Quebec*
26-Houston*
28-Phoenix
30-San Diego

DECEMBER

3-Minnesota*
4-New England*
5-Quebec*
7-Phoenix
10-Birmingham
12-Calgary*
17-Cincinnati
18-Calgary*
19-Edmonton*
26-Quebec
28-Houston*
30-San Diego*

JANUARY

2-Houston
4-Indianapolis
7-Indianapolis
9-Birmingham
11-Phoenix
14-Calgary*
16-Cincinnati
23-Calgary
25-Houston*
27-Birmingham*
29-San Diego*
30-Phoenix*

FEBRUARY

1-Edmonton*
5-San Diego
6-Calgary
8-Quebec*
10-New England*
11-Cincinnati*
13-Indianapolis*
15-Calgary
18-Edmonton*
20-Edmonton
22-Houston
23-Phoenix*
26-Cincinnati*
27-New England

MARCH

2-Quebec
4-Minnesota
5-Phoenix*
6-Minnesota*
8-San Diego
11-Minnesota
13-Edmonton
17-Edmonton*
18-Indianapolis*
20-Birmingham*
22-Edmonton
27-Houston*
29-Houston
31-San Diego*

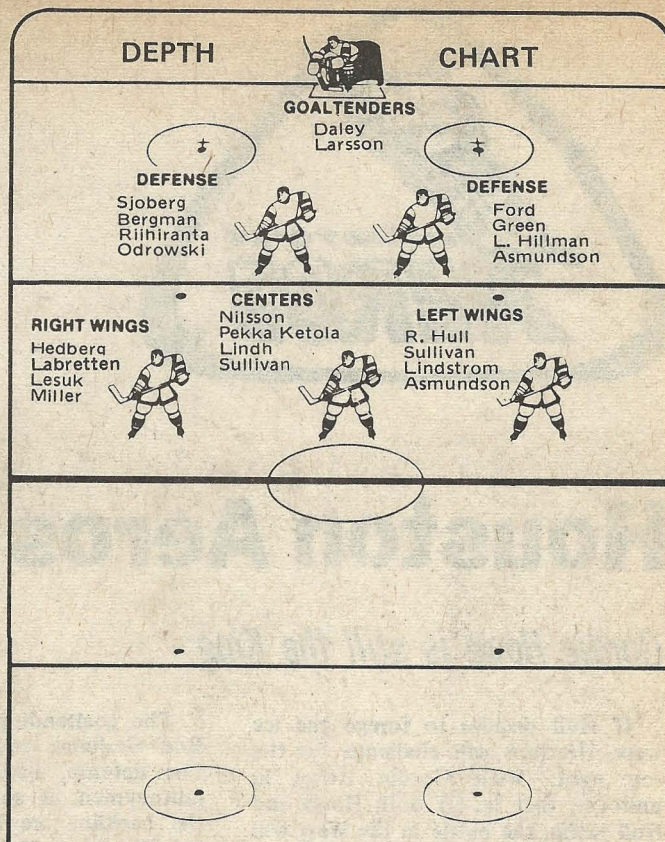
APRIL

2-Birmingham*
3-Calgary
6-Minnesota*

*Away



Ulf Nilsson



1975-76 W.H.A. Statistical Review

	GP	G	A	TP	PIM	SOG	SC%	WG	IP	PP	SH	LGF	LGA	LGR	L%F	L%A	L%R
WINNIPEG																	
Bobby Hull	80	53	70	123	30	416	.13	10	91	14	-	116	54	+62	.44	.27	+17
Ulf Nilsson	78	38	76	114	84	152	.25	8	84	7	3	115	50	+65	.45	.27	+18
Anders Hedberg	76	50	55	105	48	271	.18	10	80	9	6	109	49	+60	.42	.26	+16
Peter Sullivan	78	32	39	71	22	161	.20	3	45	5	-	72	76	-4	.30	.39	-.09
Veli-P. Ketola	80	32	36	68	32	339	.09	1	39	8	-	71	75	-4	.27	.38	-.11
Willy Lindstrom	81	23	36	59	32	151	.15	4	45	5	1	68	64	+4	.25	.32	-.07
Mike Ford	81	13	43	56	70	245	.05	2	48	2	-	93	54	+39	.35	.27	+08
Norm Beaudin	80	16	31	47	38	155	.10	1	30	2	-	58	59	-1	.22	.30	-.08
Thommie Bergman	81	11	30	41	111	183	.06	2	24	1	-	75	66	+9	.28	.33	-.05
Lars-E. Sjoberg	81	5	36	41	12	120	.04	-	34	1	-	107	61	+46	.40	.31	+09
Bill Lesuk	81	15	21	36	92	120	.13	2	27	3	-	57	56	+1	.21	.28	-.07
Mats Lindh	65	19	15	34	12	99	.19	5	26	4	-	47	40	+7	.22	.25	-.03
Lyle Moffat, Wpg	42	13	9	22	44	61	.21	2	16	4	-	27	24	+3	.20	.21	-.01
Season Totals	75	17	16	33	77	118	.14	3	26	5	-	41	54	-13	.20	.26	-.06
Ted Green	79	5	23	28	73	61	.08	-	20	-	-	92	60	+32	.35	.31	+04
Larry Hornung	76	3	18	21	26	50	.06	2	13	1	-	59	65	-6	.24	.35	-.11
Perry Miller, Wpg	47	7	6	13	41	42	.17	-	4	1	-	21	13	+8	.15	.13	+02
Season Totals	60	8	10	18	48	57	.14	-	5	1	-	27	14	+13	.14	.11	+03
Duke Asmundson	72	5	11	16	19	50	.10	-	4	-	-	23	22	+1	.10	.12	-.02
Gerry Odrowski	13	0	1	1	6	13	.00	-	-	-	-	9	17	-8	.18	.45	-.27
Season Totals	50	1	13	14	16	82	.01	-	8	-	-	39	56	-17	.27	.41	-.14
Larry Hillman	71	1	12	13	62	67	.01	-	7	-	-	52	55	-2	.23	.32	-.09
Hexi Riihiranta	70	1	8	9	26	38	.03	-	4	-	-	42	42	-	.19	.23	-.04
Robert Guindon	29	3	3	6	14	26	.12	-	4	1	-	2	9	-7	.02	.13	-.11
Curt Larsson	23	0	1	1	6	0	.00	-	1	-	-	60	59	+1	-	-	-
Joe Daley	62	0	1	1	17	0	.00	-	1	-	-	205	141	+64	-	-	-
Traded Players	1	0	0	0	0	0	.00	-	-	-	-	1	0	+1	.20	.00	+20
Jets Totals	81	345	581	926	940	2733	.13	52	666	68	10	267	200	+67			
Opponent Totals	81	254	481	672	1469	2406	.11	27	506	45	8	200	267	-67			

GOALTENDERS	GPI	MIN	W	L	T	PCT	SOG	GA	SVS	GAA	EN	SA%	GAF	SG	SP
WINNIPEG	81	4898	52	27	2	.654	2406	254	2152	3.11	-	.894	9.72	5	104
Joe Daley	62	3612	41	17	1	.703	1771	171	1600	2.84	-	.905	10.36	5	82
Curt Larsson	23	1287	11	10	1	.523	635	83	552	3.87	-	.869	7.65	-	22
OPPONENTS	81	4897	27	52	2	.346	2731	343	2388	4.20	2	.874	7.96	2	61

POWERPLAY OPPORTUNITIES

	GP	OPP/PIM	AVG	OPP	GF	GA	PROF.	FREQ
At Home	40	752	18.8	205	41	1	20.0	5.00
On Road	41	717	17.5	189	27	7	14.3	7.00
Overall	81	1469	18.1	394	68	8	17.3	5.79

SHORTHANDED SITUATIONS

	GP	PIM	AVG	SIT	GF	GA	EFF.	FREQ
At Home	40	465	11.6	112	3	17	84.8	6.59
On Road	41	473	11.5	140	7	28	80.0	5.00
Overall	81	940	11.6	251	10	45	82.1	5.58



BILL DINEEN

Houston Aeros

Gordie Howe is still the King

If Hull decides to forego the ice wars, Houston will challenge for the top spot. With Gordie Howe in uniform, that is. (If both Howe and Hull retire, the battle in the West will be wide open, with Calgary and Phoenix having a chance.)

Howe managed 102 points in his 47th year, placing him 10th among league scorers and first in the hearts of geriatrics everywhere. With youngsters Don Larway, Rich Preston and Mark and Marty Howe around, the Aeros are a threat for the top spot in the West. Larry Lund, Andre Hinse and Frank Hughes form the go-go line with Preston and Terry Ruskowski joining Mark and Gordie on Houston's No. 1 line. Marty Howe and Hughes had 76 points with Lund and Hinse getting 73 each.

The goaltending unit is solid with Ron Grahame and Wayne Rutledge. The defense, basically made up of journeymen, is solid. The names on the backline are Marty Howe, John Schella, Larry Hale and Poul Popiel. This group allowed 263 goals against, third lowest in the WHA.

Aeros original Gord Labossiere was lost in the intra-league draft to Quebec, but he should not be missed.

"I hated to lose him," admitted Houston coach-general manager Bill Dineen. "He has been with the team since the start and has done so much to contribute to our success. I hated to leave him unprotected but we had to go with Larway and Preston."

And one old player. Although he had himself placed on the league's voluntary retirement list, Aeros President Howe doesn't expect to man

a desk chair all season. Instead, he'll look to take up a spot on the Houston ice.

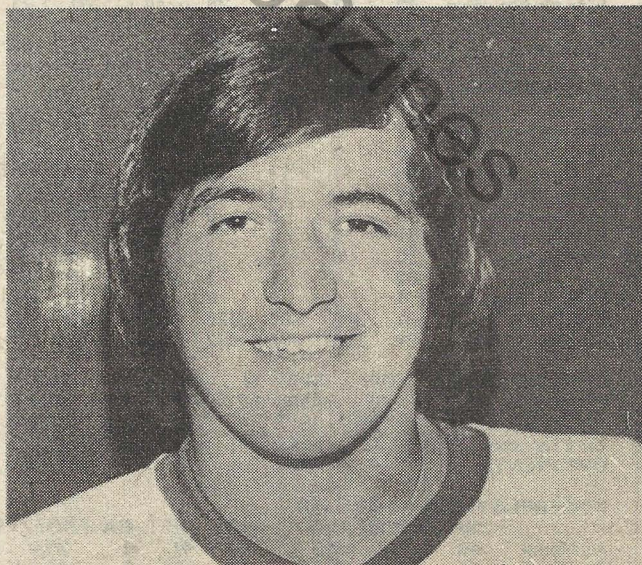
"I think I had a pretty good year and now I have to decide whether I can be of more help in the front office or on the ice," says Howe. "Right now there are still factors to be considered. I want to be absolutely certain before I make any announcements."

Until he has actually sat out a large number of games, nobody will believe the great Gordie has retired.

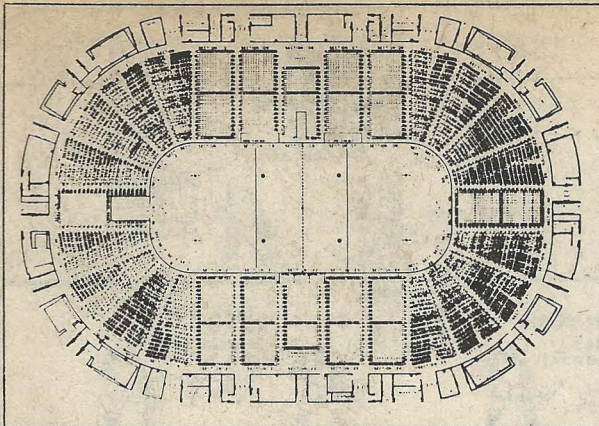
Coleen Howe, the brains of the Howe menage has fallen out with the Houston top brass. This may affect the role Gordie would play as president—and make him an active player once more. It's what he knows best. If Howe quits, the 9,180 average attendance will dip. That's up from 6,801 in 1974-75.

ROSTER

	POS	S	HT	WT	BIRTH DATE	BIRTH PLACE
Aberhart, Bruce	G	L	5-11	195	9-19-54	Sarnia, Ont.
Grahame, Ron	A	L	5-11	175	6-07-50	Victoria, B.C.
Hale, Larry	D	L	6-1	187	10-09-41	Summerland, B.C.
Hall, Murray	F	R	5-11	174	11-24-40	Kirkland Lake Ont.
Hinse, Andre	F	L	5-9	175	4-19-45	Three Rivers, Que.
Howe, Gordie	F	R/L	6-0	204	3-31-28	Floral, Sask.
Howe, Mark	F	L	5-11	180	5-28-55	Detroit, Mich.
Howe, Marty	D	L	6-1	185	2-18-54	Detroit, Mich.
Hughes, Frank	F	L	5-10	180	10-01-49	Fernie, B.C.
Irwin, Glen	D	R	5-11	195	3-01-51	Edmonton, Alta.
Larway, Don	F	L	6-1	192	2-02-54	Oak Lake, Man.
Liddington, Bob	F	L	5-11	175	9-15-48	Calgary, Alta.
Lund, Larry	F	L	6-0	190	9-09-40	Penticton, B.C.
Popiel, Jan	F	L	5-9	180	10-09-47	Virum, Denmark
Popiel, Poul	F	L	5-10	176	2-28-46	Solsted, Dnmrk
Preston, Rich	F	L	5-10	165	5-22-52	Regina, Sask.
Ruskowski, Terry	F	L	5-10	168	12-31-54	Prince Albt, Sask.
Rutledge, Wayne	A	L	6-2	205	1-05-42	Barrie, Ont.
Schella, John	D	L	6-0	180	5-09-47	Port Arthur, Ont.
Stevens, Mike	D	L	5-11	188	10-13-50	Winnipeg, Man.
Taylor, Ted	LW		6-0	175	2-25-42	Oak Leaf, Man.
Titcomb, Gord	LW		5-11	186	9-03-53	Dalhousie, N.B.
Tonelli, John	F	L	6-1	190	3-23-57	Hamilton, Ont.
West, Steve	C	L	5-8	150	3-20-52	Peterborough, Ont.



Frank Hughes



THE SUMMIT



Goaltender Ron Grahame sprawls as former Fighting Saint Mike Walton goes over the top.

SCHEDULE

HOUSTON OCTOBER

- 8-Birmingham *
- 9-Phoenix
- 13-Calgary
- 16-Birmingham
- 19-New England
- 21-Birmingham *
- 22- New England *
- 23-Quebec *
- 26-Edmonton
- 28-Minnesota
- 30-Calgary *
- 31-Edmonton *

NOVEMBER

- 2-Winnipeg *
- 5-Phoenix
- 6-San Diego *
- 9-Indianapolis
- 12- San Diego
- 16-Calgary
- 19-San Diego *
- 20-Phoenix *
- 23-Edmonton
- 26-Winnipeg

DECEMBER

- 3-Edmonton
- 5-Cincinnati *
- 8-New England *
- 10-Cincinnati *
- 12-Indianapolis *
- 14-Phoenix
- 17-Quebec
- 18-San Diego *
- 19-Phoenix *
- 21-New England
- 23-Cincinnati
- 26-Birmingham *
- 28-Winnipeg
- 30-Indianapolis

JANUARY

- 2-Winnipeg *
- 4-Edmonton *
- 5-Calgary *
- 7-Minnesota *
- 8-Quebec *
- 11-San Diego
- 12-Phoenix *
- 14-Birmingham
- 16-Edmonton
- 21-Minnesota
- 23-San Diego
- 25-Winnipeg
- 28-Edmonton *
- 29-Calgary *

FEBRUARY

- 1-Calgary
- 3-Phoenix *
- 4-Birmingham
- 8-Indianapolis *
- 10-Minnesota *
- 12-Quebec
- 15-New England
- 18-San Diego
- 20-Minnesota *
- 22-Winnipeg *
- 23-Calgary *
- 26-San Diego *
- 27-Phoenix *

MARCH

- 1-Phoenix
- 4-New England *
- 6-Cincinnati *
- 8-Minnesota
- 11-Cincinnati
- 13-Indianapolis
- 15-Quebec
- 18-Phoenix
- 20-Indianapolis *
- 22-Quebec *
- 25-Calgary
- 27-Winnipeg
- 29-Winnipeg *
- 30-Edmonton *

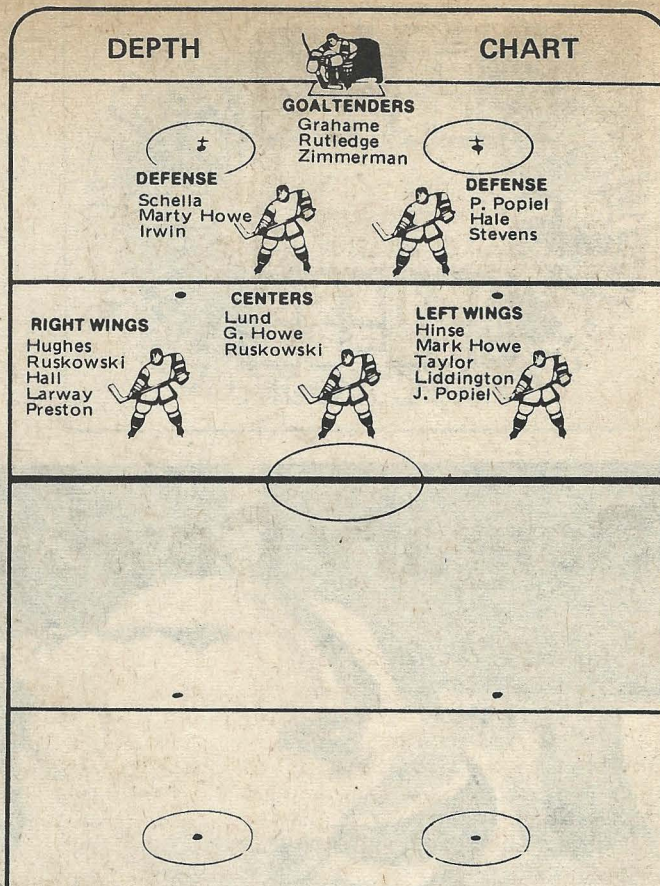
APRIL

- 1-Cincinnati
- 5-San Diego
- 6-San Diego *

* Away



If Gordie retires, can Marty (3) and Mark (4) Howe carry the load?



1975-76 W.H.A. Statistical Review

HOUSTON	GP	G	A	TP	PIM	SOG	SC%	WG	IP	PP	SH	LGF	LGA	LGR	L%F	L%A	L%R
Gordie Howe	78	32	70	102	76	241	.13	4	75	12	1	74	60	+14	.30	.30	—
Mark Howe	72	39	37	76	38	270	.14	8	57	13	6	69	40	+29	.30	.21	+09
Frank Hughes	80	31	45	76	26	165	.19	6	52	12	—	72	60	+12	.29	.29	—
Andre Hulse	70	35	38	73	6	158	.22	6	48	12	—	63	51	+12	.28	.28	—
Larry Lund	73	24	49	73	50	146	.16	1	55	6	1	63	60	+3	.28	.31	-.03
Gordon Labossiere	80	24	32	56	18	151	.16	3	38	—	—	55	56	-1	.22	.27	-.05
Rich Preston	77	22	33	55	33	159	.14	4	41	1	2	74	44	+30	.30	.22	+08
Don Larway	79	30	20	50	56	196	.15	3	40	3	—	56	47	+9	.23	.23	—
Terry Ruskowski	65	14	35	49	100	105	.13	2	36	3	—	57	39	+18	.27	.23	+04
Murray Hall	80	20	26	46	18	118	.17	8	34	3	—	60	63	-3	.24	.30	-.06
Poul Popiel	78	10	36	46	71	162	.06	2	35	2	2	135	106	+29	.55	.51	+04
Ted Taylor	68	15	26	41	88	130	.12	—	32	2	—	45	55	-10	.21	.30	-.09
John Schella	74	6	32	38	106	193	.03	—	29	—	—	103	95	+8	.46	.50	-.04
Marty Howe	80	14	23	37	81	179	.08	2	20	—	—	100	60	+40	.40	.29	+11
John Tonelli	79	17	14	31	66	123	.14	2	25	3	1	51	40	+11	.20	.19	+01
Bill Butters	14	0	4	4	18	11	.00	—	4	—	—	16	8	+8	.35	.28	+07
Season Totals	73	0	19	19	188	93	.00	—	16	—	—	88	61	+27	.42	.35	+07
Bob Liddington	2	0	0	0	2	1	.00	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	.20	.29	-.09
Season Totals	37	7	8	15	16	64	.11	2	12	1	—	24	22	+2	.23	.17	+06
Larry Hale	77	2	12	14	30	49	.04	1	4	—	—	89	82	+7	.36	.40	-.04
Jan Popiel	67	4	7	11	59	68	.06	—	9	—	—	22	35	-13	.10	.20	-.10
Season Totals	68	4	7	11	59	68	.06	—	9	—	—	22	35	-13	.10	.19	-.09
Glen Irwin	72	3	8	11	116	59	.05	1	10	—	—	61	58	+3	.27	.30	-.03
Ron Grahame	57	0	1	1	22	0	.00	—	1	—	—	180	141	+39	—	—	—
Mike Stevens	6	0	0	0	2	7	.00	—	—	—	—	1	3	-2	.12	.21	-.09
Wayne Rutledge	25	0	0	0	6	0	.00	—	—	—	—	69	65	+4	—	—	—
Aeros Totals	80	341	555	896	1093	2680	.13	53	671	77	13	251	210	+41	—	—	—
Opponent Totals	80	263	407	670	933	2536	.10	27	509	43	10	210	251	-41	—	—	—

GOALTENDERS	GPI	MIN	W	L	T	PCT	SOG	GA	SVS	GAA	EN	SA%	GAF	SG	SP
HOUSTON	80	4801	53	27	0	.663	2532	259	2273	3.24	4	.898	9.78	4	82
Ron Grahame	57	3343	39	17	0	.696	1753	182	1570	3.27	3	.896	9.63	3	57½
Wayne Rutledge	25	1456	14	10	0	.583	780	77	703	3.17	1	.901	10.13	1	24½
OPPONENTS	80	4799	27	53	0	.338	2679	340	2339	4.25	1	.873	7.88	1	64

POWERPLAY OPPORTUNITIES

	GP	OPP/PIM	AVG	OPP	GF	GA	PROF.	FREQ
At Home	40	514	12.9	135	47	5	34.8	2.87
On Road	40	419	10.5	119	30	5	25.2	3.97
Overall	80	933	11.7	254	77	10	30.3	3.30

SHORTHANDED SITUATIONS

	GP	PIM	AVG	SIT	GF	GA	EFF.	FREQ
At Home	40	547	13.7	151	6	23	84.8	6.57
On Road	40	546	13.7	150	7	20	86.7	7.80
Overall	80	1093	13.7	301	13	43	85.7	7.00



JOE CROZIER

Calgary Cowboys

Rough, tough Cowboys

Few people would be distressed if Joe Crozier was fired by the Calgary Cowboys. Crozier's mob can maul all they want in the playoffs, as they did to the Nordiques and Tardif, but the reactions against them will always be loud.

The Cowboys are the most hated team in the league, perhaps in all of hockey. It may be cruel to wish ill of a team but many observers feel it would bode well for hockey if the Cowboys suffer in attendance and are ridiculed by their contemporaries for their style of play.

Which is a shame because Calgary boasts some fine players in its ranks. Danny Lawson is a genuine scoring star (44-52-96 last year) with a booming slapper. Ron Chipperfield

(42 goals and 83 points) and Gavin Kirk are solid performers, and had workers like George Morrison, Rick Sentes, Don Tannahill and Butch Deadmarsh always help.

The addition of former Buffalo Sabres goalie Gary Bromley to the Corral could mean big things. With Bromley having directed the Sabres to a Divisional title two years ago and Don McLeod having an Avco win under his belt at Houston, Joe Crozier could be building a surprise in the West.

McLeod played 63 games, with the Cowboys goals against being in seventh in the loop.

Harry Howell, 45 year old gray horse who might play again, steadied Crozier's club down when he joined

up in mid-season. Francois Lacombe, Chris Evans, John Miszuk and vet Duane Rupp are underrated.

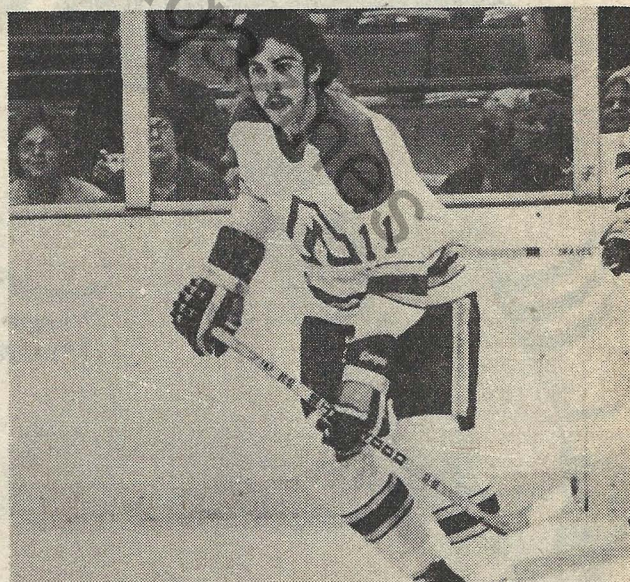
The incident in which Rick Jodzio mauled Marc Tardif is still in court. Jodzio is only a fringe player, who wouldn't be missed. If the Tardif-Jodzio incident had occurred in the NHL, the furor would have been greater.

Still Crozier "made" pro hockey in Calgary with a style of close checking not normally associated with the WHA. Playing in a tiny building they averaged 4,948.

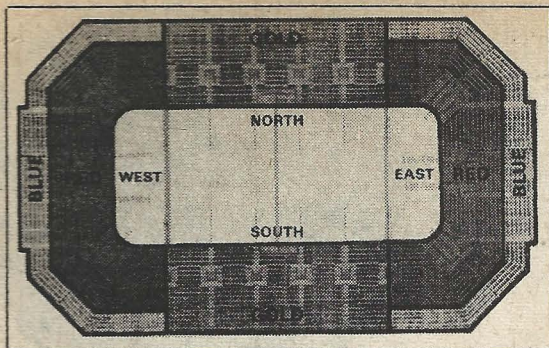
If Howe and Hull quit and Phoenix has a goalie problem, Calgary could move up.

ROSTER

	POS	S	HT	WT	BIRTH DATE	BIRTH PLACE
Bromley, Gary	G	L	5-10	160	1-19-50	Edmonton, Alta.
Carlson, Jack	F	L	6-3	190	8-23-54	Virginia, Minn.
Chipperfield, Ron	F	R	5-11	180	3-28-54	Brandon, Man.
Deadmarsh, Butch	F	L	5-11	186	4- 5-50	Trall, B.C.
Delorenzi, Ray	F	R	5-10	185	6-14-52	Sault Ste. Marie
Degulse, Michel	G	L	5-8	150	11- 6-51	Sorel, Que.
Driscoll, Peter	F	L	6-0	190	10-27-54	Kingston, Ont.
Evans, Chris	D	L	5-9	181	9-14-46	Toronto, Ont.
Haas, Derek	F	L	6-0	170	5- 1-55	Trall, B.C.
Hull, Steve	F	R	5-10	180	8-29-52	Ottawa, Ont.
Humphreys, Ed	G	L	6-1	170	6- 5-53	Eston, Sask.
Israelson, Larry	F	L	6-1	180	8- 2-52	Wetaskiwin, Sask.
Jodzio, Rick	F	L	6-1	185	6- 3-54	Edmonton, Alta.
Kirk, Gavin	F	L	5-10	175	12- 6-51	London, Eng.
Lacombe, Fran	D	L	5-9	185	2- 2-48	Montreal, Que.
Lawson, Danny	F	R	5-11	185	10-30-47	Toronto, Ont.
Leiter, Bobby	F	L	5-9	171	3-22-41	Winnipeg, Man.
Lukowich, Bern	F	R	6-0	190	3-18-52	N. Battleford, Sask.
McCrimmon, Jim	D	L	6-2	220	5-29-53	Ponoka, Alta.
McLean, Denis	F	L	6-2	195	7-30-55	
McLeod, Don	G	L	6-1	190	8-24-46	Trall, B.C.
Miszuk, John	D	L	6-2	200	9-29-40	Naliboki, Poland
Morrison, George	F	L	6-1	175	12-24-48	Toronto, Ont.
Olds, Wally	D	R	6-2	200	8-17-49	Warroad, Minn.
Powis, Lynn	F	L	6-0	185	4-19-49	Saskatoon, Sask.
Reed, Bill	D	R	5-11	190	5-25-54	Toronto, Ont.
Rupp, Duane	D	L	6-1	195	3-29-38	Macnutt, Sask.
Serviss, Tom	F	R	5-10	185	5-25-48	Moose Jaw, Sask.
Sentes, Rick	F	L	5-11	180	1-10-47	Regina, Sask.
St. Sauveur, Claude	F	L	6-0	170	1- 2-52	Sherbrooke, Que.
Tannahill, Don	F	L	5-11	178	2-21-49	Penetang, Ont.
Terbenche, Paul	D-F	L	5-10	170	9-16-45	Port Hope, Ont.



Claude St. Sauveur was returned to the Cowboys by Atlanta of the N.H.L.



STAMPEDE CORRAL



Rick Senters challenges Edmonton's Tim Sheehy for position.

SCHEDULE

CALGARY OCTOBER

- 8-Winnipeg *
- 9-Quebec *
- 12-Birmingham *
- 13-Houston *
- 16-San Diego *
- 21-Quebec
- 22-Minnesota *
- 24-San Diego
- 26-Birmingham
- 30-Houston

NOVEMBER

- 2-Minnesota
- 4-Edmonton
- 7-New England
- 11-Winnipeg
- 14-Winnipeg
- 16-Houston *
- 18-Phoenix *
- 19-Quebec
- 21-Minnesota *
- 23-Birmingham *
- 24-Phoenix *
- 27-San Diego

DECEMBER

- 1-New England *
- 2-Indianapolis *
- 3-Cincinnati *
- 5-Phoenix
- 8-Minnesota
- 10-Minnesota *
- 12-Winnipeg
- 18-Winnipeg
- 21-Edmonton *
- 23-Edmonton
- 26-Cincinnati
- 30-Quebec

JANUARY

- 1-Edmonton
- 5-Houston
- 7-Edmonton *
- 8-Indianapolis
- 11-Indianapolis
- 14-Winnipeg
- 15-San Diego *
- 16-Phoenix *
- 21-Indianapolis *
- 22-Quebec *
- 23-Winnipeg *
- 25-Phoenix
- 29-Houston
- 30-Edmonton *

FEBRUARY

- 1-Houston *
- 2-San Diego *
- 5-Phoenix *
- 6-Winnipeg *
- 11-Edmonton
- 13-Edmonton *
- 15-Winnipeg *
- 16-Cincinnati
- 18-Cincinnati
- 20-New England
- 23-Houston
- 25-New England
- 27-Indianapolis

MARCH

- 1-Minnesota
- 3-Birmingham
- 6-San Diego
- 9-San Diego
- 12-Cincinnati *
- 15-Indianapolis *
- 16-Cincinnati *
- 18-New England *
- 19-Quebec *
- 20-New England *
- 22-Birmingham *
- 24-San Diego *
- 25-Houston *
- 27-Phoenix
- 29-Phoenix

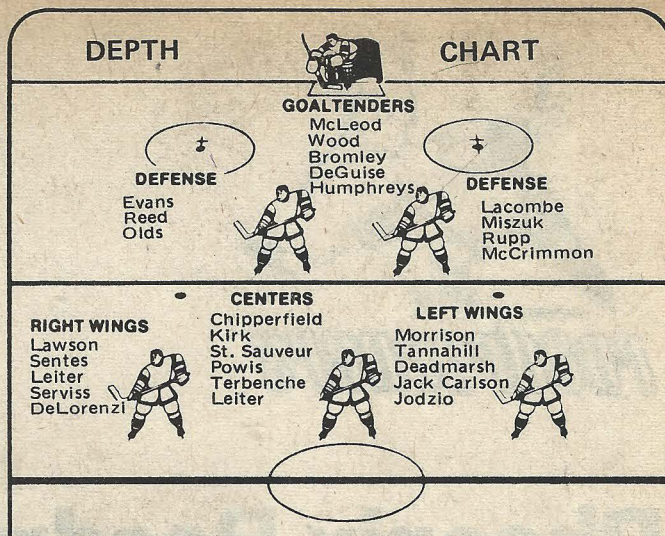
APRIL

- 1-Edmonton *
- 2-Edmonton
- 3-Winnipeg *
- 5-Birmingham

* Away



Danny Lawson is the Cowboys' big scorer.



1975-76 W.H.A. Statistical Review

CALGARY	GP	G	A	TP	PIM	SOG	SC%	WG	IP	PP	SH	LGF	LGA	LGR	L%F	L%A	L%R
Danny Lawson	80	44	52	96	46	381	.12	5	78	7	4	76	63	+13	.33	.32	+.01
Ron Chipperfield	75	42	41	83	32	228	.18	5	62	19	—	58	45	+13	.27	.24	+.03
Gavin Kirk, Clg.	15	7	8	15	14	37	.19	1	14	1	—	14	6	+8	.33	.18	+.15
Season Totals	77	35	46	81	46	179	.20	2	67	4	—	101	99	+2	.39	.33	+.06
George Morrison	79	25	32	57	13	145	.17	—	37	7	1	57	52	+5	.25	.27	-.02
Butch Deadmarsh	79	26	28	54	196	215	.12	4	42	5	2	56	51	+5	.24	.26	-.02
Rick Sentes	72	25	24	49	33	139	.18	5	30	7	—	52	43	+9	.25	.25	—
Don Tannahill	78	25	24	49	10	174	.14	5	39	1	5	63	57	+6	.28	.30	-.02
Bob Leiter	51	17	17	34	8	94	.18	—	25	6	—	44	38	+6	.30	.30	—
Peter Driscoll	75	16	18	34	127	118	.14	6	29	2	—	54	42	+12	.25	.23	+.02
Larry Israelson	57	10	22	32	26	69	.14	1	8	1	—	41	31	+10	.25	.21	+.04
Francois Lacombe	71	3	28	31	62	100	.03	—	22	1	—	81	70	+11	.41	.39	+.02
Steve Hull	58	11	15	26	6	81	.14	—	21	—	—	31	33	-2	.18	.22	-.04
Chris Evans	75	3	20	23	50	146	.02	—	17	1	—	92	80	+12	.41	.45	-.04
John Miszuk	69	2	21	23	66	77	.03	—	13	—	—	95	64	+31	.46	.37	+.09
Ray DeLorenzi	39	8	12	20	4	56	.14	—	15	—	1	23	16	+7	.20	.16	+.04
Murray Keogan	38	7	11	18	19	61	.11	2	13	—	—	27	23	+4	.23	.24	-.01
Season Totals	46	7	13	20	23	75	.09	2	14	—	—	31	29	+2	.22	.24	-.02
Terry Caffery	21	5	13	18	4	38	.13	2	14	1	—	20	17	+3	.28	.31	+.01
Season Totals	25	5	13	18	4	40	.13	2	14	1	—	20	18	+2	.27	.30	-.03
Rick Jodzio	47	10	7	17	137	44	.23	2	14	—	—	24	19	+5	.19	.16	+.03
Duane Rupp	42	0	16	16	33	61	.00	—	8	—	—	30	36	-6	.31	.35	-.04
Pat Westrum, Clg	9	0	2	2	23	8	.00	—	2	—	—	8	4	+2	.25	.19	+.06
Season Totals	63	3	12	15	121	63	.05	—	7	—	—	69	48	+21	.37	.31	+.06
Derek Haas	30	5	9	14	6	34	.15	—	11	—	—	15	10	+5	.17	.14	+.03
Lynn Powis	21	4	10	14	2	63	.06	—	12	—	1	15	13	+2	.25	.25	—
Don McLeod	63	0	13	13	4	6	.00	—	11	—	—	171	145	+26	—	—	—
Bernie Lukowich	15	5	2	7	18	24	.21	1	6	—	—	8	13	-5	.20	.39	-.19
Paul Terbenche	58	2	14	6	22	58	.03	—	12	—	1	67	70	-3	.40	.50	.10
Wally Olds	28	0	5	5	6	17	.00	—	5	—	—	17	13	+4	.21	.19	+.02
Bill Reed	29	0	5	5	14	29	.00	—	1	—	—	29	26	+3	.38	.38	—
Harry Howell	31	0	3	3	6	26	.00	—	2	—	—	24	20	+4	.29	.24	+.05
Bill Gratton	6	0	1	1	2	4	.00	—	1	—	—	2	4	-2	.09	.22	.13
Dave Gilmour	1	0	0	0	0	0	.00	—	—	—	—	0	2	-2	.00	.40	.40
Ken Desjardine	1	0	0	0	0	0	.00	—	—	—	—	0	0	—	.00	.00	—
Rob Walton	2	0	0	0	0	1	.00	—	—	—	—	0	0	—	.00	.00	—
Warren Miller	3	0	0	0	0	4	.00	—	—	—	—	0	1	-1	.00	.20	.20
Vic Mercredi	3	0	0	0	29	1	.00	—	—	—	—	0	0	—	.00	.00	—
Yvon Bilodeau	4	0	0	0	2	2	.00	—	—	—	—	0	4	-4	.00	.40	.40
Jim McCrimmon	5	0	0	0	2	0	.00	—	—	—	—	3	2	+1	.17	.20	-.03
Ed Humphreys	8	0	0	0	0	0	.00	—	—	—	—	18	19	-1	—	—	—
Cowboys Totals	80	307	481	788	1064	2588	.12	41	604	59	15	233	198	+35	—	—	—
Opponent Totals	80	282	474	756	1008	2274	.12	35	603	70	13	198	233	-35	—	—	—
GOALTENDERS	GPI	MIN	W	L	T	PCT	SOG	GA	SVS	GAA	EN	SA%	GAF	SG	SP		
CALGARY	80	4855	41	35	4	.538	2270	278	1992	3.44	4	.878	8.17	2	83		
Don McLeod	63	3534	30	27	3	.525	1600	207	1393	3.51	2	.871	7.73	1	62		
Ed Humphreys	8	441	2	5	0	.286	255	27	228	3.67	2	.895	9.44	—	6		
Departed	19	880	9	3	1	.731	415	45	370	3.07	—	.892	9.22	1	15		
OPPONENTS	80	4857	35	41	4	.463	2596	305	2291	3.77	2	.883	8.51	4	72		
POWERPLAY OPPORTUNITIES	GP	OPP	PIM	AVG	OPP	GF	GA	PROF.	FREQ	GP	PIM	AVG	SIT	GF	GA	EFF	FREQ
At Home	40	483	12.1	129	31	5	24.0	4.16	4.16	40	501	12.5	129	8	19	85.3	6.79
On Road	40	525	13.1	142	28	8	19.7	5.07	5.07	40	563	14.1	168	7	51	69.6	3.29
Overall	80	1008	12.6	271	59	13	21.8	4.59	4.59	80	1064	13.3	297	15	70	76.4	4.24



AL ROLLINS

Phoenix Roadrunners

Ftorek makes 'Runners go "Beep-Beep"

Phoenix could have challenged for the division title had they kept Sandy Hucul, the WHA's best coach, behind the bench. Instead, a personality and economy conflict resulted in the firing of Hucul, with Al Rollins taking over as General-Manager-coach.

Basically a team of nobodies, the Roadrunners are one of the more exciting outfits in the league. They are led by American Robbie Ftorek, Finns Pekka Rautakallio and Lauri Mononen, and Del Hall, John Gray, Ron Huston and Jim Niekamp. Who, you say?

Well, didn't the NBA say who when the Phoenix Suns' lineup was introduced, only to see the Suns wind up in the finals. It would be good advice to stay wary of the Roadrunners, whose main weakness is in goal, where Jack Norris' retirement has left it up to Gary Kurt to do the

job in 76-77. Phoenix may "beep-beep" its way to great heights.

The Roadrunner players are a special breed. They purchased more than 500 season tickets this past summer to keep the franchise fairly solvent. The cost was approximately \$110,000. The average attendance was 6,464, down from 7,443 of 1974-75.

Rollins is putting together an all Finnish line of Seppo Repo, Lauri Mononen and Juhani Tamminen, who was purchased from Cleveland. With defenseman Rautakallio notching 50 points in 1975-76, Finland is very important to the Roadrunners.

Phoenix trained in Finland, with Rollins hoping to find a goalie to share the load with Kurt.

The Runners are proud of Ftorek, who hustled his way to 113 points. Hall had 91, Gray 80, Huston 33 and Jim Boyd 57.

The defense is led by Rautakallio, with Niekamp, Gary Lariviere, Al McLeod and Serge Beaudoin.

"I thought players weren't supposed to care about such things," offered Rollins. "Well, our players care."

"The city has been good to us and so have the people," says defenseman Niekamp. "We just want to be a part of the city. It's not as if we just play here and leave at the end of the season."

"When you get older and start raising a family," adds Niekamp, "you can really appreciate a place like Phoenix. We just want to do something to make hockey go here."

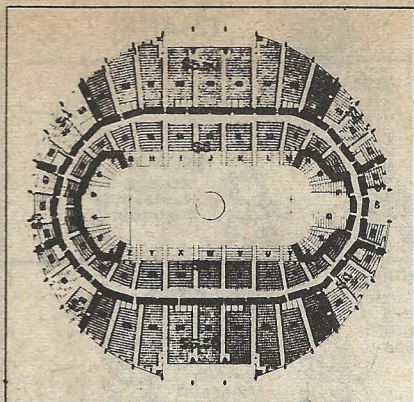
If the Runners apply their talents to the ice game as well as they have to the community, then Phoenix fans will enjoy the upcoming hockey campaign.

ROSTER

	POS	S	HT	WT	BIRTH DATE	BIRTH PLACE
Beaudoin, Serge	D	L	6-2	215	11-30-52	Montreal, Que.
Boyd, Jim	F	L	5-9	180	6-04-49	Calgary, Alta.
Bray, Duane	F	L	6-2	195	10-24-54	Flin Flon, Man.
Connor, Cam	F	L	6-2	200	8-10-54	Winnipeg, Man.
Cornlier, Michel	D	L	5-9	170	12-22-45	Three Rivers, Que.
Davidson, Blair	D	L	5-11	180	4-10-55	Cartwright, Man.
Dean, Barry	F	L	6-1	195	2-26-55	Maple Creek, Sask.
Erickson, Grant	F	L	5-9	165	4-28-47	Pierceland, Sask.
Ftorek, Robbie	F	L	5-8	155	1-02-52	Needham, Mass.
Gorman, Dave	F	L	5-11	185	4-08-55	Oshawa, Ont.
Gray, John	F	L	5-10	180	8-13-49	Little Current, Ont.
Hall, Del	F	L	5-10	170	5-07-49	Peterborough, Ont.
Hobin, Mike	F	L	5-11	180	2-11-54	Sarnia, Ont.
Huston, Ron	F	R	5-9	170	4-08-45	Manitou, Man.
Kurt, Gary	G	R	6-2	195	3-09-47	Kitchener, Ont.
Lariviere, Garry	D	L	6-0	190	12-06-54	St. Catharines, Ont.
Lyseng, Neil	F	L	6-0	175	9-26-55	Calgary, Alta.
Mandryk, Dan	F	R	6-1	180	8-22-54	Calgary, Alta.
McLeod, Al	F	L	5-11	195	6-17-49	Medicine Hat, Alta.
Migneault, John	F	L	5-11	180	2-04-49	Thompkins, Sask.
Mononen, Lauri	F	L	6-0	180	3-22-50	Finland
Niekamp, Jim	F	R	6-1	185	3-11-46	Detroit, Mich.
Olmstead, Dennis	F	L	6-0	175	2-05-54	Calgary, Alta.
Rautakallio, P.	F	L	5-11	185	7-25-53	Finland
Repo, Seppo	F	L	5-10	180		Finland
Sleep, Mike	F	R	6-0	180	3-13-55	
Swanson, Roger	F	L	5-11	180	2-28-55	Flin Flon, Man.
Tamminen, J.	F	L	5-11	185	5-26-50	Finland
Veneruzzo, Gary	F	L	5-8	165	6-28-43	Ft. William, Ont.



Juhani Tamminen is part of an all-Finish line, with Seppo Repo and Lauri Mononen.



MEMORIAL COLISEUM



Robbie Ftorek was the W.H.A.'s fifth-leading scorer last year.

SCHEDULE

PHOENIX

OCTOBER

- 8-Cincinnati
- 9-Houston *
- 14-Minnesota
- 16-Winnipeg
- 19-Edmonton *
- 22-Winnipeg *
- 24-Edmonton *
- 26-Quebec *
- 29-New England *
- 30-Cincinnati *

NOVEMBER

- 2-Quebec *
- 4-Birmingham *
- 5-Houston *
- 7-Minnesota *
- 10-Indianapolis
- 12-New England
- 14-San Diego
- 16-Edmonton
- 18-Calgary
- 20-Houston
- 24-Calgary
- 26-Edmonton
- 28-Winnipeg *
- 30-Edmonton *

DECEMBER

- 2-San Diego *
- 4-San Diego
- 5-Calgary *
- 7-Winnipeg *
- 9-Quebec
- 12-Cincinnati *
- 14-Houston *
- 15-Birmingham
- 17-Edmonton
- 19-Houston
- 22-San Diego
- 28-Indianapolis

JANUARY

- 2-Indianapolis *
- 4-Birmingham *
- 8-New England *
- 11-Winnipeg *
- 12-Houston
- 14-Cincinnati
- 16-Calgary
- 20-Cincinnati
- 22-Edmonton
- 23-Edmonton *
- 25-Calgary *
- 26-Minnesota *
- 28-New England
- 30-Winnipeg

FEBRUARY

- 1-San Diego *
- 3-Houston
- 5-Calgary
- 9-Birmingham
- 11-San Diego
- 13-San Diego *
- 15-Birmingham *
- 17-New England *
- 19-Indianapolis *
- 20-Cincinnati *
- 23-Winnipeg
- 25-Minnesota
- 27-Houston

MARCH

- 1-Houston *
- 5-Winnipeg
- 6-Indianapolis *
- 8-Quebec *
- 12-San Diego *
- 15-San Diego *
- 17-Quebec
- 18-Houston *
- 19-Minnesota
- 23-Birmingham
- 25-San Diego
- 26-Minnesota *
- 27-Calgary *
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- 31-New England

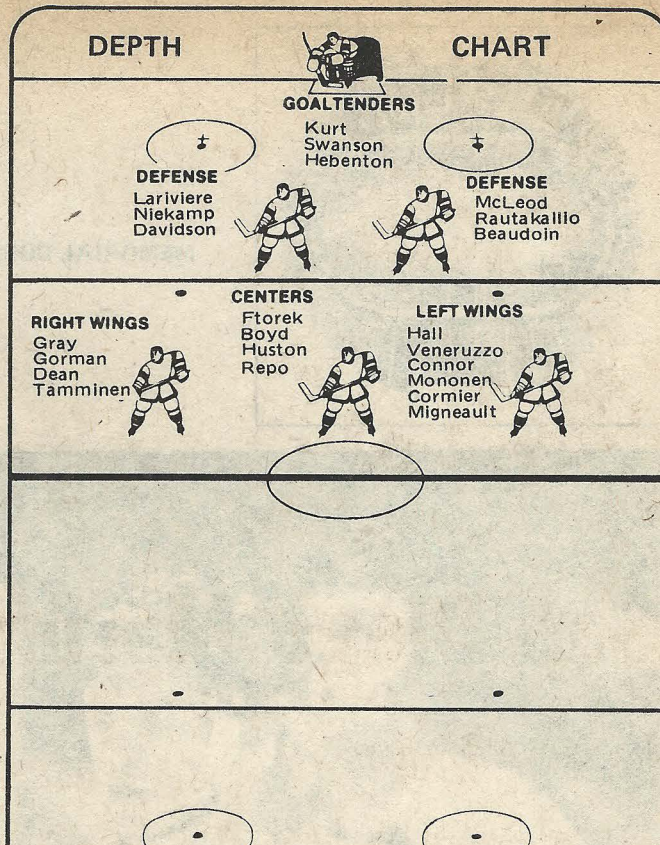
APRIL

- 2-Quebec
- 6-Indianapolis

* Away



Roadrunner defenseman Garry Lariviere rides Stinger ace Rick Dudley to the ice.



1975-76 W.H.A. Statistical Review

PHOENIX	GP	G	A	TP	PIM	SOG	SC%	WG	IP	PP	SH	LGF	LGA	LGR	L%F	L%A	L%R
Robbie Florek	80	41	72	113	109	232	.18	4	80	10	-	97	61	+36	.41	.31	+10
Del Hall	80	47	44	91	10	249	.19	7	50	12	-	92	71	+21	.39	.36	+03
John Gray	79	35	45	80	136	192	.18	5	50	6	-	88	66	+22	.38	.34	+04
Ron Huston	79	22	44	66	4	185	.12	2	44	4	4	48	48	---	.21	.25	-.04
Jim Boyd	80	23	34	57	44	189	.12	4	41	7	2	56	53	+3	.24	.27	-.03
Pekka Rautakallio	73	11	39	50	8	191	.06	2	38	3	-	81	56	+25	.38	.31	+07
Gary Veneruzzo	61	19	24	43	27	130	.15	3	31	3	1	50	28	+22	.26	.20	+06
Season Totals	75	22	26	48	35	160	.14	3	34	3	1	55	28	+27	.24	.16	+08
Cam Connor	73	18	21	39	295	153	.12	-	24	1	-	53	30	+23	.24	.17	+07
Michel Cormier	46	21	15	36	4	120	.18	1	28	4	-	32	27	+5	.23	.25	-.02
Lauri Mononen	75	15	21	36	19	135	.11	2	23	2	-	48	39	+9	.21	.21	--
Barry Dean	71	9	25	34	110	126	.07	4	22	1	-	54	37	+17	.26	.22	+04
Dave Gorman	67	11	20	31	28	120	.09	1	17	1	-	39	39	--	.19	.23	-.04
Garry Lariviere	79	7	17	24	100	102	.07	-	20	1	-	80	65	+15	.34	.34	--
Serge Beaudoin	76	0	21	21	102	96	.00	-	15	-	-	69	65	+4	.31	.34	-.03
John Migneault	68	8	12	20	14	69	.12	2	13	-	-	31	40	-9	.15	.23	-.08
Al McLeod	80	2	17	19	82	83	.02	-	12	1	-	93	81	+12	.39	.42	-.03
Jim Niekamp	79	4	14	18	77	87	.05	1	13	1	-	93	72	+21	.40	.37	+03
Jim Clarke	59	1	9	10	57	56	.02	-	6	-	-	53	50	+3	.30	.36	-.06
Grant Erickson	33	4	4	8	6	64	.06	-	8	-	1	15	15	--	.16	.18	-.02
Gary Kurt	40	0	4	4	2	1	.00	-	4	-	-	114	97	+17	-	-	-
Dave Walter	0	0	0	0	0	0	.00	-	2	-	-	--	--	--	--	--	--
Season Totals	16	1	2	3	6	13	.08	-	2	-	-	3	1	+2	.07	.02	+05
Mike Sleep	9	2	0	2	0	5	.40	1	2	-	-	1	5	-4	.04	.26	-.22
Mike Hobin	9	1	1	2	2	13	.08	-	2	-	-	7	6	+1	.23	.24	-.01
Jack Norris	41	0	2	2	6	0	.00	-	2	-	-	119	88	+31	-	-	-
Clay Hebenton	2	0	0	0	0	0	.00	-	-	-	-	4	7	-3	-	-	-
Traded Players	15	1	2	3	32	19	.05	-	3	-	-	5	11	-6	.13	.22	-.09
Roadrunners Tot.	80	302	514	816	1292	2630	.11	39	594	57	8	237	195	+42			
Opponent Totals	80	287	480	767	1124	2390	.12	35	579	89	3	195	237	-42			

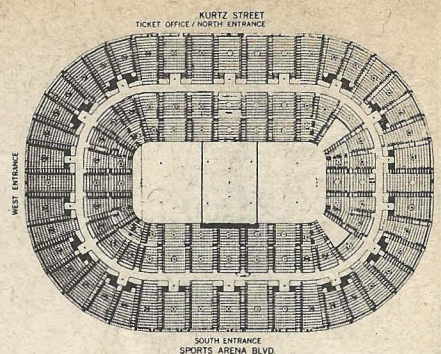
GOALTENDERS	GPI	MIN	W	L	T	PCT	SOG	GA	SVS	GAA	EN	SA%	GAF	SG	SP
PHOENIX	80	4859	39	35	6	.525	2387	284	2103	3.51	3	.881	8.40	2	81
Jack Norris	41	2412	21	14	4	.590	1177	128	1049	3.18	2	.891	9.20	1	46
Gary Kurt	40	2369	18	20	2	.475	1162	147	1015	3.72	1	.873	7.90	1	35
Clay Hebenton	2	80	0	1	0	.000	48	9	39	6.75	-	.813	5.33	-	-
OPPONENTS	80	4864	35	39	6	.475	2627	299	2328	3.69	3	.886	8.79	2	83

POWERPLAY OPPORTUNITIES

	GP	OPP/PIM	AVG	OPP	GF	GA	PROF.	FREQ
At Home	40	629	15.7	156	31	2	19.9	5.03
On Road	40	495	12.4	120	26	1	21.7	4.62
Overall	80	1124	14.1	276	57	3	20.7	4.84

SHORTHANDED SITUATIONS

	GP	PIM	AVG	SIT	GF	GA	EFF.	FREQ
At Home	40	612	15.3	161	4	42	73.9	3.83
On Road	40	680	17.0	169	4	47	72.2	3.60
Overall	80	1292	16.2	330	8	89	73.0	3.71



SAN DIEGO INTERNATIONAL
SPORTS ARENA

San Diego Mariners

Mariners Are Survivors

The saga of the San Diego Mariners in surviving for thirteen weeks without pay after Joseph Schwartz defaulted when unable to meet the payroll is a shining example of the other side of the coin. The gallant Mariner players played the month of March and on into the playoffs without a pay day, upset arch rival Phoenix in the playoffs and carried Houston to a tough six games before bowing out in 1975-76.

They were counted out of the WHA four different times during the summer, but finally, when none of the players had sold their services elsewhere, Ray Kroc, the hamburger king and owner of the baseball Padres stepped in and saved hockey in San Diego.

Mr. Franchise is Andre Lacroix, who once centered the French Line of the Philadelphia Flyers. Slick Andre

tallied 29 goals and added 72 assists for 102 points. Lacroix played much of the time with Wayne Rivers and John French. Rivers dropped off with only 19-25-44 and general manager-coach Ron Ingram hopes he bounces back to the 54 goals and 54 assists he notched in 1974-75.

The tough Mariners also boast center Ray Adduono, who has proved he isn't too small. Adduono got 90 points, his linemates Norm Ferguson 74 and Gene Peacosh 70. Joe Norris, an American, playing up front after starting his career as a defenseman, got 68 points, with second-team all-star defenseman Kevin Morrison firing from the point for 65.

With Ernie Wakely in goal, the defense has veterans of the genre of Mike McMahon, Bob Wall, Bob Falkenberg, Brent Hughes and Jim

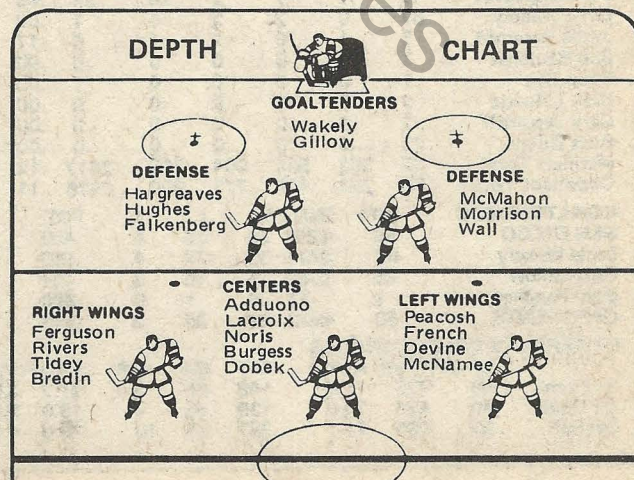
Hargreaves.

Last season, the Mariners were very tough at home, but pushovers on the road. They finished two games under .500, scored 303 goals—second highest in the West Division, but allowed 290, as the boys played wide-open for the most part.

With Phoenix trusting former New York Raider Gary Kurt as their number one goalie, the Californians might move up. Wakely can do the job, if given protection. Morrison is a tough offensive defenseman and Lacroix is a shifty piece of machinery. There is not much to choose between Phoenix, Calgary and San Diego. Even Houston fits into this picture if Gordie Howe quits or plays ineffectively. The Mariners could surprise and survive quite nicely in the WHA West.

ROSTER

Pos.	S	Ht	Wt	Birthdate	Birthplace
F	L	5-9	160	1-21-47	Fort William, Ont.
F	L	6-1	185	9-16-54	Thetford Mines, Que
F	R	6-0	185	5-25-48	Edmonton, Alta
F	L	6-0	170	6-08-46	Port Edward, Ont
F	L	5-8	163	12-09-54	Toronto, Ont
F	L	6-0	182	10-04-52	Detroit, Mich
F	L	6-0	195	1-01-46	Stettler, Alta
F	L	5-8	173	10-16-45	Sydney, NS
F	L	5-10	165	8-25-50	Orillia, Ont
F	L	5-11	195	5-02-50	Hesper, Ont
F	L	6-0	205	6-17-43	Winnipeg, Man
F	L	6-0	180	8-31-47	Bowmanville, Ont
F	L	5-8	175	6-05-45	Latchford, Ont
F	L	5-11	182	8-30-41	Launon, Que
F	L	5-11	198	9-11-50	Quebec, Que
F	L	5-10	185	5-11-49	Jamaica, WI
F	L	5-11	202	10-23-49	Brampton, Ont
F	L	6-0	185	10-26-51	Sydney, NS
F	L	5-11	180	9-23-48	Denver, Col
F	L	5-9	185	2-01-42	Sherridan, Man
F	L	5-10	170	9-28-44	Hamilton, Ont
F	L	6-0	182	1-05-55	Hull, Que
G	L	5-11	160	11-27-40	Vancouver, BC
F	D	5-10	180	12-01-42	Flin Flon, Man
F	D	5-10	180	12-01-42	Elgin Mills, Ont



SCHEDULE

SAN DIEGO

OCTOBER

9-Cincinnati
12-Quebec *
15-Minnesota *
16-Calgary
17-Winnipeg
21-Indianapolis
24-Calgary *
26-Minnesota *
27-Indianapolis *
29-Cincinnati *
31-Winnipeg *

NOVEMBER

2-Birmingham *
6-Houston
7-Indianapolis
11-Birmingham *
12-Houston *
14-Phoenix *
17-Edmonton
19-Houston
21-Birmingham *
24-Edmonton
27-Calgary *
28-Edmonton *
30-Winnipeg *

DECEMBER

2-Phoenix
4-Phoenix *
8-Cincinnati *
10-Indianapolis *
11-New England *
12-Minnesota *
14-Edmonton *
16-Edmonton
18-Houston
19-Quebec
22-Phoenix *
23-New England
26-Indianapolis
30-Winnipeg

JANUARY

2-New England *
4-Quebec *
6-Birmingham
8-Cincinnati *
11-Houston *
13-Cincinnati
15-Calgary
20-Edmonton
22-Minnesota
23-Houston *
27-New England
29-Winnipeg

* Away

FEBRUARY

1-Phoenix
2-Calgary
4-Winnipeg *
6-Edmonton *
8-Edmonton *
11-Phoenix
12-Birmingham
13-Phoenix
16-Quebec
18-Houston *
24-Minnesota
26-Houston

MARCH

2-New England *
4-Indianapolis *
5-Quebec *
6-Calgary *
8-Winnipeg *
9-Calgary *
12-Phoenix
15-Phoenix
20-Minnesota
24-Calgary
25-Phoenix *
26-Birmingham
29-New England
31-Winnipeg

APRIL

2-Cincinnati
3-Quebec
5-Houston *
6-Houston

1975-76 W.H.A. Statistical Review

SAN DIEGO	GP	G	A	TP	PIM	SOG	SC%	WG	IP	PP	SH	LGF	LGA	LGR	L%F	L%A	L%R
Andre Lacroix	80	29	72	101	42	274	.11	3	69	12	3	65	94	-29	.28	.39	-.11
Ray Adduono	80	23	67	90	22	92	.25	2	65	6	-	94	65	+29	.41	.27	+.14
Norm Ferguson	79	37	37	74	12	253	.15	4	55	4	-	86	72	+14	.38	.31	+.07
Gene Peacosh	79	37	33	70	35	214	.17	6	50	8	-	69	74	-5	.30	.31	-.01
Joe Noris	80	28	40	68	24	194	.14	3	46	5	3	61	57	+4	.26	.24	+.02
Kevin Morrison	80	22	43	65	56	334	.07	2	49	7	-	91	91	-	.39	.38	+.01
John Frénch	76	25	39	64	16	110	.23	3	46	6	-	60	62	-2	.29	.30	-.01
Kevin Devine	80	21	28	49	102	109	.19	2	34	3	-	58	56	+2	.25	.24	+.01
Wayne Rivers	71	19	25	44	24	188	.10	5	20	10	-	46	64	-18	.23	.32	-.09
Brent Hughes	78	7	28	35	63	104	.07	-	30	1	-	105	99	+6	.46	.42	+.04
Alex Tidey	74	16	11	27	46	160	.10	2	12	2	-	55	48	+7	.26	.22	+.04
Don Burgess	73	14	11	25	35	122	.11	1	21	2	-	31	48	-17	.14	.22	-.08
Bob Wall	68	1	20	21	32	73	.01	-	9	-	-	84	81	+3	.43	.39	+.04
Gary Bredin	50	4	5	9	10	55	.07	1	7	-	-	18	30	-12	.13	.19	-.06
Season Totals	67	8	8	16	12	70	.11	3	11	1	-	26	45	-19	.14	.21	-.07
Bob Falkenberg	79	3	13	16	31	71	.04	-	12	-	-	54	72	-18	.24	.31	-.07
Mike McMahon	69	2	12	14	38	79	.03	-	7	-	-	48	53	-5	.24	.26	-.02
Brian Morenz	40	6	7	13	22	38	.16	2	10	-	-	17	26	-9	.15	.21	-.06
Peter McNamee	51	1	3	4	27	52	.02	-	3	-	-	10	20	-10	.07	.13	-.06
Season Totals	65	2	5	7	59	70	.03	-	6	-	-	15	31	-16	.08	.15	-.07
Bob Dobek	14	3	1	4	2	23	.13	-	1	-	-	6	5	+1	.15	.14	+.01
Jim Hargreaves	43	1	1	2	26	34	.03	-	2	-	-	30	33	-3	.25	.28	-.03
Ernie Wakely	67	0	2	2	6	1	.00	-	2	-	-	192	171	+21	-	-	-
Jamie Bateman	7	1	0	1	4	6	.17	-	1	-	-	1	2	-1	.04	.12	-.08
Bob Blanchet	1	0	0	0	0	0	.00	-	-	-	-	2	3	-1	-	-	-
Brian Bye	1	0	0	0	0	1	.00	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	.00	.00	-
Rick Lalonde	2	0	0	0	0	0	.00	-	-	-	-	0	1	-1	.00	.17	-.17
Gary Jacquith	2	0	0	0	0	0	.00	-	-	-	-	0	0	-	.00	.00	-
Russ Gillow	23	0	0	0	0	0	.00	-	-	-	-	36	60	-24	-	-	-
Mariners Total	80	303	501	804	716	2617	.12	36	585	66	6	231	238	-7	-	-	-
Opponent Totals	80	290	483	773	900	2576	.11	38	609	42	10	238	231	+7	-	-	-

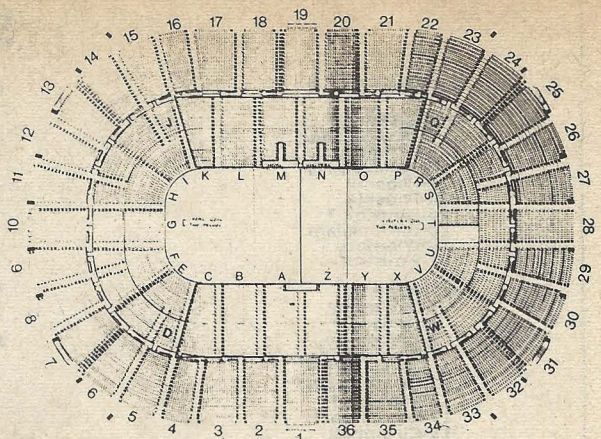
GOALTENDERS	GPI	MIN	W	L	T	PCT	SOG	GA	SVS	GAA	EN	SA%	GAF	SG	SP
SAN DIEGO	80	4894	36	38	6	.488	2572	286	2286	3.51	4	.889	8.99	3	89
Ernie Wakely	67	3824	35	27	4	.552	1980	208	1772	3.26	3	.895	9.52	3	73
Russ Gillow	23	1037	1	10	2	.154	568	74	494	4.28	1	.870	7.68	-	16
Bob Blanchet	1	32	0	1	0	.000	24	4	20	7.50	-	.833	6.00	-	-
OPPONENTS	80	4902	38	36	6	.513	2615	301	2314	3.68	2	.885	8.69	-	77

POWERPLAY OPPORTUNITIES

	GO	OPP	PIM	AVG	OPP	GF	GA	PROF.	FREQ
At Home	40	475	11.9	148	41	5	27.7	3.61	
On Road	40	425	10.6	139	25	5	18.0	5.56	
Overall	81	900	11.1	287	66	10	23.0	4.35	

SHORTHANDED SITUATIONS

	GP	PIM	AVG	SIT	GF	GA	EFF.	FREQ
At Home	40	365	9.1	111	3	13	88.3	8.54
On Road	40	351	8.8	109	3	29	73.4	3.76
Overall	80	716	9.0	220	6	42	80.9	5.24



THE COLISEUM

Edmonton Oilers

Ullman lends a touch of class

The only thing certain about the Edmonton situation is that Bill Hunter, the owner-general manager-coach, is no longer in the picture. He was fired by the Board of Directors, who were unhappy with his fourth-annual return to the Edmonton bench last year. He had returned to the Oilers' more times than the Emile Francis nonsense in New York.

The Oilers almost didn't operate and only the intervention of Ben Hatskin enabled them to continue on an old lease at the Edmonton Coliseum.

Goalies Dave Dryden and Chris Worthy are talented, but have been caught in a bad situation.

Barry Long, Al Hamilton, Paul Hurley and Ted McAneeley form the

Blue Line crew. Hornung, from Winnipeg, is a key in any chance at improvement.

Up front Norm Ullman, the ancient ex-Red Wing and Maple Leaf is the big star. Wayne Carleton and Tim Sheehy, both ex-Whalers are expected to help the goals for column.

Hunter, a non stop worker, claims to have lost \$2 million on the Oilers. It was his doing which created reality to Gary Davidson's original idea for the WHA. And it was his efforts which built the \$15 million Edmonton Coliseum.

The Oilers went with veteran home brews from the start and have been burned. Attendance dropped from a 10,722 average in 1974-75 to 7,931 last year.

Big Alan Hamilton, a defense star

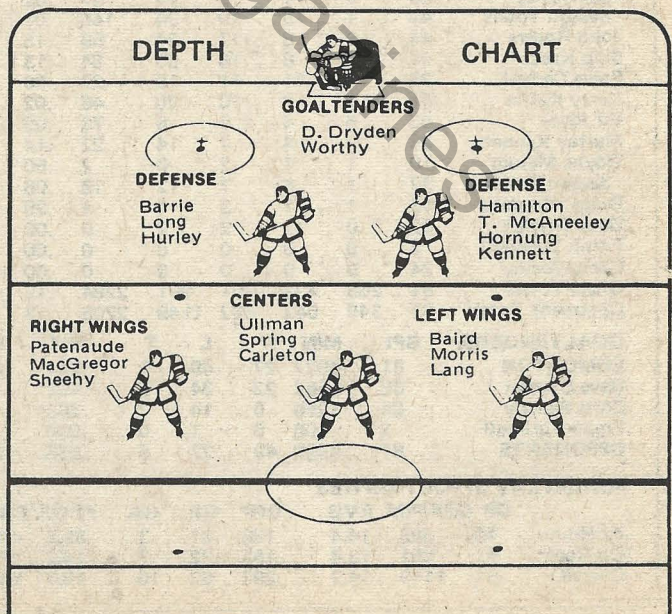
with the junior Oil Kings has been unspectacular back home. Bruce MacGregor, a former Red Wing and Ranger got just 21 points in 63 games. Rusty Patenaude surprised with 72 points, but Edmonton must get more goals than the 268 they notched in 1975-76, and allow fewer than the 345 they surrendered. The goals for was the worst in the Canadian Division and the goals against second worst.

Oiler stockholders feel a youth movement is needed, but the economic squeeze seems to prevent this.

The success of the Calgary Cowboys, a prairie rival is hurting Edmonton at the gate. The acquisition of Carleton gives the team a super star, by WHA standards, but one very hard to handle.

ROSTER

	POS	S	HT	WT	BIRTH DATE	BIRTH PLACE
Baird, Ken	F	L	6-0	190	2-01-51	Flin Flon, Man.
Barrie, Doug	F	R	5-9	175	10-02-46	Edm., Alta.
Borgeson, Don	F	L	5-11	175	5-20-45	N. Battersford, Sask.
Carleton, Wayne	F	L	6-3	225	8-04-46	Sudbury, Ont.
Dryden, Dave	G	R	6-1 1/2	186	9-05-41	Hamilton, Ont.
Hamilton, Al	D	R	6-2	195	8-20-46	Flin Flon, Man.
Hornung, Larry	F	R	6-0	190	11-10-45	Weyburn, Sask.
Hurley, Paul	D	R	5-11	180	7-12-46	Meirose, Mass.
Kennett, Paul	D	R	5-10	175	6-28-52	Kamloops, B.C.
Lang, Bill	F	L	6-2	190	3-24-53	Harris, Sask.
Long, Barry	D	R	6-2	210	1-03-49	Red Deer, Alta.
MacGregor, Bruce	F	R	5-10	180	4-26-41	Edmonton, Alta.
McAneeley, Ted	D	R	5-9	185	11-07-50	Cranbrook, B.C.
Morris, Peter	F	L	5-8	165	6-29-55	
Morris, Rick	F	L	5-11	175	7-05-46	Hamilton, Ont.
Patenaude, Rusty	F	R	5-9	175	10-17-49	Williams Lk., B.C.
Russell, Bob	F	R	5-9	167	2-05-55	
Sheehy, Tim	RW	R	6-1	185	9-03-48	Ft. Frances, Ont.
Spring, Dan	C	R	6-0	180	10-31-51	Rosshand, B.C.
Ullman, Norm	C	L	5-10	185	12-26-35	Provost, Alta.
Worthy, Chris	G	L	6-0	186	10-23-47	Bristol, England



SCHEDULE

EDMONTON

OCTOBER

8-New England
15-Winnipeg
17-Indianapolis
19-Phoenix
24-Phoenix
26-Houston
28-Birmingham
29-Winnipeg
31-Houston

NOVEMBER

3-Minnesota
4-Calgary
5-Edmonton
7-Winnipeg
10-Cincinnati
13-Birmingham
16-Phoenix
17-San Diego
19-Cincinnati
21-Quebec
23-Houston
24-San Diego
26-Phoenix
28-San Diego
30-Phoenix

* Away

DECEMBER

2-Birmingham
3-Houston
4-Indianapolis
5-Minnesota
7-Quebec
12-Birmingham
14-San Diego
16-San Diego
17-Phoenix
19-Winnipeg
21-Calgary
23-Calgary
27-Cincinnati
28-Quebec

JANUARY

1-Calgary
4-Houston
7-Calgary
8-Minnesota
9-Indianapolis
11-Quebec
14-New England
15-Indianapolis
16-Houston
20-San Diego
22-Phoenix
23-Phoenix
28-Houston
30-Calgary

FEBRUARY

1-Winnipeg
6-San Diego
8-San Diego
11-Calgary
13-Calgary
15-Cincinnati
18-Winnipeg
20-Winnipeg
22-New England
25-Indianapolis
27-Minnesota

MARCH

1-Quebec
3-Minnesota
6-Birmingham
9-Cincinnati
10-Indianapolis
12-Quebec
13-Winnipeg
15-Minnesota
17-Winnipeg
22-Winnipeg
24-New England
25-Cincinnati
27-New England
30-Houston

APRIL

1-Calgary
2-Calgary
6-Birmingham

1975-76 W.H.A. Statistical Review

EDMONTON	GP	G	A	TP	PIM	SOG	SC%	WG	IP	PP	SH	LGF	LGA	LGR	L%F	L%A	L%R
Norm Ullman	77	31	56	87	12	158	.19	1	70	13	1	70	91	-21	.36	.35	+.01
Rusty Patenaude	77	42	30	72	88	202	.20	4	59	11	—	73	76	-3	.37	.29	+.08
Tim Sheehy	81	34	31	65	17	223	.15	6	49	6	—	71	75	-4	.34	.27	+.07
Wayne Carleton	26	5	16	21	6	86	.06	1	16	2	—	20	33	-3	.29	.34	-.05
Season Totals	61	17	37	54	12	193	.09	1	40	4	—	59	65	-6	.39	.35	+.04
Barry Long	78	10	32	42	66	214	.05	2	37	5	—	76	125	-49	.37	.47	-.10
Rick Morris	33	11	15	26	52	89	.12	2	21	—	4	29	43	-14	.35	.36	-.01
Season Totals	74	20	21	41	110	164	.12	3	32	—	6	48	81	-33	.25	.52	-.27
Ken Baird	48	13	24	37	87	93	.14	1	30	3	—	39	45	-6	.32	.28	+.04
Al Hamilton	54	2	32	34	78	83	.02	—	24	1	—	71	79	-8	.51	.44	+.07
Bob Russell	58	13	18	31	19	118	.11	—	24	—	—	38	50	-12	.26	.25	+.01
Bob McAneeley	71	12	16	28	60	84	.14	1	19	2	—	31	42	-11	.17	.16	+.01
Doug Barrie	79	4	21	25	81	109	.04	1	19	—	—	77	119	-42	.38	.44	-.06
Bruce MacGregor	63	13	10	23	13	65	.20	—	10	2	1	23	56	-33	.14	.26	-.12
Dan Spring	75	12	11	23	8	72	.17	1	11	1	—	34	59	-25	.18	.23	-.05
Jack Carlson	10	1	1	2	31	13	.08	—	1	—	—	6	8	-2	.23	.22	+.01
Season Totals	68	9	11	20	220	81	.11	1	8	—	—	28	44	-16	.15	.24	-.09
Bill Laing	54	8	12	20	67	62	.13	1	12	—	1	34	44	-10	.25	.23	+.02
Peter Morris	75	7	13	20	34	62	.11	—	13	1	—	30	46	-16	.17	.18	-.01
Ted McAneeley	79	2	17	19	71	63	.25	1	14	—	—	69	78	-9	.34	.29	+.05
Paul Hurley	26	1	4	5	14	47	.02	—	4	—	—	28	33	-5	.44	.35	+.09
Season Totals	42	1	18	19	34	145	.01	—	16	—	—	73	84	-11	.41	.37	+.04
John Rogers	44	9	8	17	34	59	.15	—	10	—	—	24	37	-13	.22	.26	-.04
Skip Krake	41	8	8	16	55	64	.13	3	13	2	1	22	25	-3	.22	.19	+.03
Steve Carlyle	28	0	11	11	10	27	.00	—	7	—	—	27	30	-3	.38	.34	+.04
Kerry Ketter	48	1	9	10	20	48	.02	—	1	—	—	42	54	-12	.35	.34	+.01
Ed Joyal	45	5	4	9	6	73	.09	—	7	—	—	15	34	-19	.14	.22	-.08
Murray Kennett	28	3	4	7	14	22	.14	—	2	1	—	19	27	-8	.28	.30	-.02
Wayne Muloin	10	1	1	2	0	2	.50	—	—	—	—	4	10	-6	.13	.24	-.11
Season Totals	37	1	6	7	12	18	.06	—	4	—	—	18	31	-13	.19	.35	-.16
Doug Kerslake	13	1	1	2	4	4	.25	—	1	—	—	3	5	-2	.10	.09	+.01
Dave Dryden	62	0	2	2	2	0	.00	—	1	—	—	154	194	-40	—	—	—
Frank Turnbull	3	0	0	0	0	0	.00	—	—	—	—	3	8	-5	—	—	—
Chris Worthly	24	0	0	0	2	0	.00	—	—	—	—	43	72	-29	—	—	—
Oilers Totals	81	268	433	701	991	2284	.12	27	514	53	8	206	277	-71	—	—	—
Opponent Totals	81	345	547	892	1149	2706	.13	49	656	58	10	277	206	+71	—	—	—

GOALTENDERS

	GPI	MIN	W	L	T	PCT	SOG	GA	SVS	GAA	EN	SA%	GAF	SG	SP
EDMONTON	81	4927	27	49	5	.364	2703	342	2361	4.16	3	.873	7.90	2	66
Dave Dryden	62	3567	22	34	5	.402	1927	235	1692	3.95	2	.878	8.20	1	51
Chris Worthly	24	1256	5	14	0	.263	711	98	613	4.68	1	.862	7.26	1	15
Frank Turnbull	3	106	0	1	0	.000	65	9	56	5.09	—	.865	7.22	—	—
OPPONENTS	81	4930	49	27	5	.636	2281	265	2016	3.23	3	.884	8.61	2	84

POWERPLAY OPPORTUNITIES

	GP	OFF/PIM	AVG	OPP	GF	GA	PROF.	FREQ	GP	PIM	AVG	SIT	GF	GA	EFF.	FREQ
At Home	40	598	14.4	138	31	3	33.5	4.45	40	513	12.8	132	5	27	79.5	4.89
On Road	41	551	13.4	155	22	7	14.2	7.05	41	478	11.7	141	3	31	78.0	4.55
Overall	81	1149	14.2	293	53	10	18.1	5.53	81	991	12.2	273	8	58	78.8	4.71

SHORTHANDED SITUATIONS

	GP	PIM	AVG	SIT	GF	GA	EFF.	FREQ	GP	PIM	AVG	SIT	GF	GA	EFF.	FREQ
At Home	40	513	12.8	132	5	27	79.5	4.89	40	513	12.8	132	5	27	79.5	4.89
On Road	41	478	11.7	141	3	31	78.0	4.55	41	478	11.7	141	3	31	78.0	4.55
Overall	81	991	12.2	273	8	58	78.8	4.71	81	991	12.2	273	8	58	78.8	4.71

W.H.A. 1975-76 Leaders

GOAL SCORING LEADERS					SCORING	PP	GW	SH	
	GP	GOALS	GPG	SOG	FREQ.	GOALS	GOALS	GOALS	
1.	Marc Tardif, Quebec	81	71	.88	359	5.06	21	10	1
2.	Real Cloutier, Iuebec	80	60	.75	246	4.10	16	5	--
3.	Vaclav Nedomansky, Toronto	81	56	.69	328	5.86	6	7	--
4.	Bobby Hull, Winnipeg	80	53	.66	416	7.85	14	10	--
5.	Rejean Houle, Quebec	81	51	.63	256	5.02	19	9	--
6.	Anders Hedberg, Winnipeg	76	50	.66	271	5.42	9	10	6
7.	Del Hall, Phoenix	80	47	.59	249	5.30	12	7	--
8.	Danny Lawson, Calgary	80	44	.55	381	8.66	7	5	4
9.	Rick Dudley, Cincinnati	74	43	.58	218	5.07	13	6	--
9.	Mark Napier, Toronto	78	43	.55	245	5.70	10	2	3
IMPORTANT POINT LEADERS					GW	PP	SH		
	IP	TP	IP%	PTS	PTS	PTS			
1.	Marc Tardif, Quebec	105	148	.71	19	46	1		
2.	Bobby Hull, Winnipeg	91	123	.74	19	34	--		
3.	Ulf Nilsson, Winnipeg	84	114	.74	22	18	6		
4.	Real Cloutier, Quebec	83	114	.73	13	27	--		
5.	Anders Hedberg, Winnipeg	80	105	.76	18	17	9		
5.	Robbie Ftorek, Phoenix	80	113	.71	13	24	--		
7.	Danny Lawson, Calgary	78	96	.81	12	29	5		
7.	Vaclav Nedomansky, Toronto	78	98	.80	8	15	--		
7.	Chris Bordeleau, Quebec	78	109	.72	18	36	2		
10.	Gordie Howe, Houston	75	102	.74	13	43	6		
ASSIST LEADERS					WINNING	IMP	PP	SH	
	GP	ASSISTS	PER GAME	ASSISTS	AST	AST	AST	AST	
1.	J.C. Tremblay, Quebec	80	77	.96	10	58	27	1	
1.	Marc Tardif, Quebec	81	77	.95	9	51	25	-	
3.	Ulf Nilsson, Winnipeg	78	76	.97	14	54	11	3	
4.	Chris Bordeleau, Quebec	74	72	.97	11	48	25	1	
4.	Robbie Ftorek, Phoenix	80	72	.90	9	50	14	-	
4.	Andre Lacroix, San Diego	80	72	.90	8	52	30	1	
7.	Gordie Howe, Houston	78	70	.90	9	51	31	5	
7.	Bobby Hull, Winnipeg	80	70	.88	9	46	20	-	
9.	Serge Bernier, Quebec	70	68	.97	10	45	28	-	
10.	Ray Adduono, San Diego	80	67	.84	7	50	11	-	
PENALTY MINUTE LEADERS					PBG	MNRS	MJRS	MISC'S	
	GP	PIM	AVG.	PBG	MNRS	MJRS	MISC'S		
1.	Curt Brackenbury, Quebec	74	365	4.93	39	45	29	13	
2.	Kim Clackson, Indianapolis	77	351	4.56	27	33	33	9	
3.	Gord Gallant, Quebec	63	297	4.71	25	41	25	9	
4.	Cam Connor, Phoenix	72	295	4.04	26	65	15	9	
5.	Pierre Roy, Quebec	78	255	3.31	38	64	14	6	

NOTE: GP-Games Played; PIM-Penalties in Minutes; AVG-Game Average; PBG-Penalty Box Goals (goals scored against the players team while he was unavailable to play due to penalties); MNRS-Minor Penalties (2-minutes); MJRS-Major Penalties; MISC'S-Misconduct Penalties (includes game and match misconducts).

75-76 Home & Road Records

HOME								ROAD							
GP	W	L	T	PTS	GF	GA	PCT	GP	W	L	T	PTS	GF	GA	PCT
40	29	11	0	58	176	106	.725	41	23	16	2	48	169	148	.585
40	33	7	0	66	216	131	.825	41	17	20	4	38	155	185	.463
40	25	13	2	52	162	120	.650	40	16	22	2	34	145	162	.425
40	20	17	3	43	151	145	.538	41	7	32	2	16	117	200	.195
40	16	20	4	36	184	180	.450	41	8	32	1	17	151	218	.207
200	123	68	9	255	889	682	.638	204	71	122	11	153	737	913	.375
GP	W	L	T	PTS	GF	GA	PCT	GP	W	L	T	PTS	GF	GA	PCT
40	21	17	2	44	127	117	.550	40	14	22	4	32	118	130	.400
40	23	15	2	48	145	112	.600	40	12	25	3	27	128	167	.338
40	22	16	2	46	148	130	.575	40	11	24	5	27	107	160	.338
40	26	14	0	52	170	152	.650	40	9	30	1	19	115	188	.238
160	92	62	6	190	590	511	.597	160	46	101	13	105	468	645	.328
GP	W	L	T	PTS	GF	GA	PCT	GP	W	L	T	PTS	GF	GA	PCT
40	33	7	0	66	207	126	.825	40	20	20	0	40	134	137	.500
40	24	12	4	52	171	110	.650	40	12	26	2	26	132	180	.325
29	16	11	2	34	111	108	.586	30	14	14	2	30	100	104	.500
23	8	14	1	17	79	93	.370	18	6	12	0	12	55	79	.333
172	101	58	13	215	731	572	.625	168	71	73	4	146	560	652	.435
532	316	188	28	660	2210	1765	.620	532	188	316	28	404	1765	2210	.380

1975-1976 W.H.A. Playoff Statistics

PLAYOFF STANDINGS

	GP	W	L	F	A	Pts
Winnipeg	13	12	1	68	35	24
New England	17	10	7	53	35	20
Houston	17	8	9	56	64	16
Calgary	10	5	5	36	37	10
San Diego	11	5	6	36	39	10
Indianapolis	7	3	4	10	18	6
Phoenix	5	2	3	13	17	4
Quebec	5	1	4	15	23	2
Cleveland	3	0	3	6	14	0
Edmonton	4	0	4	11	22	0

HOME RECORD

	GP	W	L	F	A	Pts
Winnipeg	7	7	0	40	14	14
New England	7	5	2	26	15	10
Houston	9	5	4	33	27	10
San Diego	5	3	2	9	3	6
Phoenix	3	2	1	10	8	4
Indianapolis	4	2	2	18	23	4
Calgary	4	2	2	16	15	4
Edmonton	2	0	2	4	10	0
Cleveland	2	0	2	3	9	0
Quebec	3	0	3	9	17	0

AWAY RECORD

	GP	W	L	F	A	Pts
Winnipeg	6	5	1	28	21	10
New England	10	5	5	27	24	10
Calgary	6	3	3	20	22	6
Houston	8	3	5	23	37	6
San Diego	6	2	4	18	23	4
Quebec	2	1	1	6	6	2
Indianapolis	3	1	2	6	8	2
Cleveland	1	0	1	3	5	0
Edmonton	2	0	2	7	12	0
Phoenix	2	0	2	3	9	0

PLAYOFF FINALS

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Winnipeg	4	4	0	24	11	8
Houston	4	0	4	11	24	0

(Winnipeg wins best-of-seven series 4-0)

GAMES COMPLETED

Thu. May 20

Winnipeg 4 at Houston 3

Sun. May 23

Winnipeg 5 at Houston 4

Tue. May 25

Houston 3 at Winnipeg 6

Thu. May 27

Houston 1 at Winnipeg 9

SEMI-FINALS

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Houston	7	4	3	19	21	8
New England	7	3	4	21	19	6

(Houston wins best-of-seven series 4-3)

GAMES COMPLETED

Wed. May 5

New England 4 at Houston 2

Fri. May 7

New England 2 at Houston 5

Sun. May 9

Houston 1 at New England 4

Tue. May 11

Houston 4 at New England 3

Thu. May 13

New England 2 at Houston 4

Sat. May 15

Houston 1 at New England 6

Sun. May 16

New England 0 at Houston 2

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Winnipeg	5	4	1	22	13	8
Calgary	5	1	4	13	22	2

(Winnipeg wins best-of-seven series 4-1)

GAMES COMPLETED

Fri. April 23

Calgary 1 at Winnipeg 6

Sun. April 25

Calgary 2 at Winnipeg 3

Wed. April 28

Winnipeg 6 at Calgary 3

Fri. April 30

Winnipeg 3 at Calgary 7

Sun. May 2

Calgary 0 at Winnipeg 4

QUARTER-FINALS

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
New England	7	4	3	18	15	8
Indianapolis	7	3	4	15	18	6

(New England wins best-of-seven series 4-3)

GAMES COMPLETED

Fri. April 16

New England 4 at Indianapolis 1

Sat. April 17

New England 0 at Indianapolis 4

Wed. April 21

Indianapolis 0 at New England 3

Fri. April 23

Indianapolis 1 at New England 2

Sat. April 24

New England 0 at Indianapolis 4

Tue. April 27

Indianapolis 5 at New England 3

Thu. April 29

New England 6 at Indianapolis 0

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Houston	6	4	2	26	19	8
San Diego	6	2	4	19	26	4

(Houston wins best-of-seven series 4-2)

GAMES COMPLETED

Wed. April 21

San Diego 6 at Houston 8

Fri. April 23

San Diego 1 at Houston 3

Sun. April 25

Houston 8 at San Diego 5

Tue. April 27

Houston 2 at San Diego 3

Wed. April 28

San Diego 3 at Houston 2

Fri. April 30

Houston 3 at San Diego 2

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Winnipeg	4	4	0	22	11	8
Edmonton	4	0	4	11	22	0

(Winnipeg wins best-of-seven series 4-0)

GAMES COMPLETED

Fri. April 9

Edmonton 3 at Winnipeg 7

Sun. April 11

Edmonton 4 at Winnipeg 5

Wed. April 14

Winnipeg 3 at Edmonton 2

Fri. April 16

Winnipeg 7 at Edmonton 2

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Calgary	5	4	1	23	15	8
Quebec	5	1	4	15	23	2

(Calgary wins best-of-seven series 4-1)

GAMES COMPLETED

Sat. April 10

Calgary 3 at Quebec 1

Sun. April 11

Calgary 8 at Quebec 4

Wed. April 14

Quebec 2 at Calgary 3

Fri. April 16

Quebec 4 at Calgary 3

Sun. April 18

Calgary 6 at Quebec 4

PRELIMINARY ROUND

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
San Diego	5	3	2	17	13	6
Phoenix	5	2	3	13	17	4

(San Diego wins best-of-five series 3-2)

GAMES COMPLETED

Fri. April 9

San Diego 2 at Phoenix 3

Sat. April 10

Phoenix 2 at San Diego 4

Tue. April 13

San Diego 4 at Phoenix 6

Thu. April 15

Phoenix 1 at San Diego 5

Sat. April 17

San Diego 2 at Phoenix 1

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
New England	3	3	0	14	6	6
Cleveland	3	0	3	6	14	0

(New England wins best-of-five series 3-0)

Fri. April 9

Cleveland 3 at New England 5

Sat. April 10

New England 6 at Cleveland 1

Sun. April 11

New England 3 at Cleveland 2

TOP PLAYOFF SCORERS

	GP	G	A	P
Ulf Nilsson, Wpg.	13	7	19	26
Bobby Hull, Wpg.	13	12	8	20
Anders Hedberg, Wpg.	13	13	6	19
Tom Webster, N.E.	17	10	9	19
Terry Ruskowski, Hou.	16	6	10	16
Mark Howe, Hou.	17	6	10	16
Rosaire Paiment	17	4	11	15
John Tonelli, Hou.	17	7	7	14
Peter Sullivan, Wpg.	13	6	7	13
Mike Rogers, N.E.	17	5	8	13
Thommie Bergman, Wpg.	13	3	10	13
Mike Ford, Wpg.	12	1	12	13
Veli-Pekka Ketola, Wpg.	13	7	5	12
Don Larway, Hou.	16	7	5	12
Larry Pleau, N.E.	14	5	7	12
Gordie Howe, Hou.	17	4	8	12
Ray Adduono, S.D.	11	4	7	11
John French, S.D.	11	4	7	11

Willy Lindstrom, Wpg.	13	4	7	11
Gord Roberts, N.E.	17	2	9	11
Chris Evans, Cgy.	10	5	5	10
Gavin Kirk, Cgy.	10	4	6	10
Andre Lacroix, S.D.	11	4	6	10
Rich Preston, Hou.	17	4	6	10
Gordon Labossiere, Hou.	17	2	8	10

PLAYOFF SCORING BY TEAMS

WINNIPEG

	GP	G	A	P	PM	PCT
Ulf Nilsson	13	7	19	26	6	+15
Bobby Hull	13	12	8	20	4	+15
Anders Hedberg	13	13	6	19	15	+16
Peter Sullivan	13	6	7	13	0	+7
Thommie Bergman	13	3	10	13	8	+10
Mike Ford	12	1	12	13	8	+8
Veli-Pekka Ketola	13	7	5	12	2	+7
Willy Lindstrom	13	4	7	11	2	+9
Lyle Moffat	13	3	3	6	9	-5
Robert Guindon	13	3	3	6	9	+7
Duke Asmundson	13	3	2	5	11	+2
Norm Beaudin	13	2	3	5	10	-5
Lars-Erik Sjoberg	13	0	5	5	12	+7
Mats Lindh	13	2	2	4	4	-6
Bill Lesuk	13	2	2	4	8	+1
Hexi Riihiraanta	4	0	4	4	6	+7
Larry Hornung	13	0	3	3	6	+1
Ted Green	11	0	2	2	16	+6
Larry Hillman	12	0	2	2	32	+2
Joe Daley	12	0	1	1	10	+21
Andy Stoesz	0	0	0	0	0	-
Curt Larsson	2	0	0	0	2	-

HOUSTON

	GP	G	A	P	PM	PCT
Terry Ruskowski	16	6	10	16	64	+8
Mark Howe	17	6	10	16	18	-
John Tonelli	17	7	7	14	18	+8
Don Larway	16	7	5	12	21	+5
Gordie Howe	17	4	8	12	31	+1
Rich Preston	17	4	6	10	8	-1
Gordon Labossiere	17	2	8	10	14	-4
Marty Howe	16	4	4	8	12	-1
Poul Popiel	17	3	5	8	16	-2
John Schella	17	1	6	7	38	-2
Frank Hughes	17	5	1	6	20	-6
Andre Hinse	17	2	3	5	2	-10
Murray Hall	17	1	4	5	0	-5
Larry Hale	17	0	5	5	8	-1
Ted Taylor	11	2	2	4	17	-5
Bill Butters	17	0	3	3	51	-6
Larry Lund	5	1	1	2	4	-4
Jan Popiel	8	1	1	2	4	-2
Steve West	7	0	1	1	0	-1
Wayne Rutledge	4	0	0	0	0	+1
Glen Irwin	5	0	0	0	0	-
Ron Grahame	13	0	0	0	0	-8

1975-1976 W.H.A. Playoff Statistics

continued

	GP	G	A	P	PM	PCT
Alan Hangleben.....	13	2	3	5	20	+2
Rick Ley.....	17	1	4	5	49	+3
Tom Earl.....	17	0	5	5	4	-
Brad Selwood.....	17	2	2	4	27	+5
Don Borgeson.....	3	1	1	2	0	+2
Doug Roberts.....	17	1	1	2	8	+8
Ron Busniuk.....	17	0	2	2	14	+1
Cap Raeder.....	14	0	1	1	0	+6
Peter Devlin.....	0	0	0	0	0	-
Gaye Cooley.....	1	0	0	0	0	-
Chris Abrahamson.....	1	0	0	0	0	-
James Troy.....	2	0	0	0	29	-
Bruce London.....	4	0	0	0	0	+8
Danny Arndt.....	8	0	0	0	0	+3

SAN DIEGO

	GP	G	A	P	PM	PCT
Ray Adduono.....	11	4	7	11	6	-
John French.....	11	4	7	11	0	-
Andre Lacroix.....	11	4	6	10	4	-4
Alex Tidey.....	11	3	6	9	10	+2
Wayne Rivers.....	11	4	4	8	4	-2
Don Burgess.....	11	1	7	8	4	-3
Joe Norris.....	11	2	4	6	6	-1
Brent Hughes.....	10	1	5	6	6	-9
Kevin Morrison.....	11	1	5	6	12	-3
Kevin Devine.....	11	3	1	4	36	-
Bob Wall.....	11	1	3	4	4	-
Brian Moran.....	11	2	1	3	11	-3
Gene Peacock.....	11	2	1	3	21	-5
Bob Dobek.....	11	1	2	3	0	-1
Bob Falkenberg.....	11	1	2	3	6	-3
Norm Ferguson.....	4	2	0	2	9	-1
Mike McMahon.....	9	0	1	1	2	+3
Peter McNamee.....	11	0	1	1	28	-2
Russ Gillow.....	1	0	0	0	0	+1
Jim Hargreaves.....	5	0	0	0	2	+1
Ernie Wakely.....	11	0	0	0	0	-8

CALGARY

	GP	G	A	P	PM	PCT
Chris Evans.....	10	5	5	10	4	-2
Gavin Kirk.....	10	4	6	10	19	+3
Ron Chipperfield.....	10	5	4	9	6	+2
Lynn Powis.....	10	5	4	9	-2	+1
Danny Lawson.....	9	4	4	8	19	-3
Bernie Lukowich.....	10	3	4	7	8	+1
Don Tannahill.....	10	2	5	7	8	-2
Peter Driscoll.....	10	2	5	7	41	-1
Paul Terbenche.....	10	0	6	6	6	-2
George Morrison.....	10	3	2	5	0	+2
Bob Leiter.....	3	2	0	2	0	-
Duane Rupp.....	7	0	2	2	0	+2
Wally Olds.....	9	0	2	2	4	-
Warren Miller.....	10	1	0	1	28	-1
Pat Westrum.....	6	0	1	1	19	+1
Butch Deadmarsh.....	8	0	1	1	14	-1
Rick Sentes.....	8	0	1	1	8	+1
John Miszuk.....	10	0	1	1	10	-4
Don McLeod.....	10	0	1	1	4	-2
Derek Haas.....	1	0	0	0	0	-
Ed Humphreys.....	1	0	0	0	0	+1
Harry Howell.....	2	0	0	0	2	+1
Rick Jodzio.....	2	0	0	0	14	+1
Larry Israelson.....	3	0	0	0	0	-2
Francois Lacombe.....	8	0	0	0	2	-

PHOENIX

	GP	G	A	P	PM	PCT
Jim Boyd.....	5	3	2	5	2	+4
Del Hall.....	5	2	3	5	0	-5
Lauri Mononen.....	5	1	3	4	2	-2
Robbie Florek.....	5	1	3	4	2	-3
Gary Veneruzzo.....	5	2	0	2	7	+3
John Gray.....	5	1	1	2	7	+2
Ron Huston.....	5	1	1	2	0	+1
Garry Lariviere.....	5	0	2	2	2	+7
Al McLeod.....	5	0	2	2	4	-1
Grant Erickson.....	5	0	2	2	0	+1
Dave Gorman.....	5	0	2	2	24	+1
Pekka Rautakallio.....	5	0	2	2	0	+4
Cam Connor.....	5	1	0	1	21	+2
Serge Beaudoin.....	5	1	0	1	10	-2
Jim Niekamp.....	5	0	1	1	0	-4
Mike Hobin.....	0	0	0	0	0	-
Jim Clarke.....	0	0	0	0	0	-
Gary Hurt.....	0	0	0	0	0	-
John Migneault.....	3	0	0	0	0	+1
Mike Sleep.....	3	0	0	0	0	-
Jack Norris.....	5	0	0	0	2	+1

CLEVELAND

	GP	G	A	P	PM	PCT
Rich Ieduc.....	3	2	1	3	2	-3
Gary Jarrett.....	3	0	3	3	2	-1
Tom Edur.....	3	0	3	3	0	-3

	GP	G	A	P	PM	PCT
Ron Ward.....	3	0	2	2	0	-3
Al McDonough.....	3	1	0	1	0	-2
Wayne Connelly.....	3	1	0	1	2	-2
Barry Legge.....	3	0	1	1	12	-3
Jim Harrison.....	3	0	1	1	9	-2
Danny Gruen.....	3	0	1	1	0	-1
Jacques Caron.....	0	0	0	0	0	-
Juhani Tamminen.....	1	0	0	0	0	-
Cam Newton.....	1	0	0	0	0	-3
Brian Maxwell.....	2	0	0	0	4	-1
Bob Johnson.....	2	0	0	0	0	-4
Russ Walker.....	3	0	0	0	18	+1
Terry Holbrook.....	3	0	0	0	0	-5
Gary MacGregor.....	3	0	0	0	4	-
John A. Stewart.....	3	0	0	0	0	-
Gerry Pinder.....	3	0	0	0	4	-2
Randy Legge.....	3	0	0	0	0	-2
Ray McKay.....	3	0	0	0	4	-3
Paul Baxter.....	3	0	0	0	10	-2

EDMONTON

	GP	G	A	P	PM	PCT
Rusty Patenaude.....	4	1	4	5	12	+2
Ken Baird.....	4	3	1	4	16	+1
Tim Sheehy.....	4	2	2	4	0	-5
Norm Ullman.....	4	1	3	4	2	+3
Dan Spring.....	2	1	1	2	0	-
Wayne Carleton.....	4	1	1	2	2	-6
Bob McAnesley.....	3	1	0	1	0	+1
Bob Russell.....	4	1	0	1	0	-3
Peter Morris.....	0	1	1	1	7	-
Bill Laing.....	4	0	1	1	4	-2
Bruce MacGregor.....	4	0	1	1	0	-1
Rick Morris.....	4	0	1	1	6	-1
Al Hamilton.....	4	0	1	1	6	-2
Doug Barrie.....	4	0	1	1	15	-2
Chris Worthing.....	1	0	0	0	0	-3
Wayne Mulain.....	1	0	0	0	0	-1
Dave Dryden.....	3	0	0	0	0	-2
Ted McAnesley.....	4	0	0	0	0	-1
Jack Carlson.....	4	0	0	0	4	-4
Paul Hurley.....	4	0	0	0	0	-2
Barry Long.....	4	0	0	0	4	-2

QUEBEC

	GP	G	A	P	PM	PCT
Real Cloutier.....	5	4	5	9	0	-3
Serge Bernier.....	5	2	6	8	6	+1
Dale Hoganson.....	5	1	3	4	2	-1
Steve Sutherland.....	5	2	1	3	17	-
Pierre Roy.....	5	1	2	3	29	-1
J.C. Tremblay.....	5	0	3	3	0	-2
Rejean Houle.....	5	2	0	2	8	-2
Chris Bordeleau.....	5	1	1	2	4	-1
Ted Hampson.....	5	0	2	2	10	+1
Marc Tardif.....	2	1	0	1	2	-

	GP	G	A	P	PM	PCT
Bob Fitchner.....	5	1	0	1	8	-3
Jean Bernier.....	4	0	1	1	0	-5
Charles Constantin.....	5	0	1	1	4	-4
Michel Dubois.....	0	0	0	0	0	-
Florent Deguise.....	0	0	0	0	0	-
Florent Fortier.....	1	0	0	0	0	-
Gary Grisdale.....	1	0	0	0	14	-
Jim Benzalock.....	3	0	0	0	0	-1
Gord Gallant.....	2	0	0	0	31	-
Bill Prentice.....	5	0	0	0	17	-1
Tom Serviss.....	5	0	0	0	0	-1
Curt Brackenbury.....	5	0	0	0	18	-1
Richard Brodeur.....	5	0	0	0	2	-6

PLAYOFF GOALING

	GP	MIN	GA	SO	AVG
NEW ENGLAND Totals.....	17	1016	40	2	2.36
Gaye Cooley.....	1	0	0	0	0.00
Chris Abrahamson.....	1	0	0	0	0.00
Bruce London.....	4	197	7	0	2.13
Cap Raeder.....	14	819	31	2	2.27
INDIANAPOLIS Totals.....	7	419	17	2	2.43
Michel Dion.....	3	126	5	0	2.38
Jim Park.....	6	294	12	2	2.45
WINNIPEG Totals.....	13	781	35	1	2.69
Joe Daley.....	12	671	29	1	2.59
Curt Larsson.....	2	110	6	0	3.27
PHOENIX Totals.....	5	298	17	0	3.42
Jack Norris.....	5	298	17	0	3.42
SAN DIEGO Totals.....	11	661	39	0	3.54
Michel Gillow.....	1	20	0	0	0.00
Ernie Wakely.....	11	640	39	0	3.66
CALGARY Totals.....	10	599	37	0	3.71
Ed Humphreys.....	1	20	0	0	0.00
Don McLeod.....	10	559	37	0	3.97
HOUSTON Totals.....	17	1017	64	1	3.78
Wayne Rutledge.....	4	200	10	0	3.00
Ron Grahame.....	14	817	54	1	3.97
QUEBEC Totals.....	5	299	22	0	4.41
Richard Brodeur.....	5	299	22	0	4.41
CLEVELAND Totals.....	3	180	14	0	4.67
Bob Johnson.....	2	120	8	0	4.00
Cam Newton.....	1	60	6	0	6.00
EDMONTON Totals.....	4	240	22	0	5.50
Dave Dryden.....	3	180	15	0	5.00
Chris Worthing.....	1	60	7	0	7.00



Winnipeg's Ulf Nilsson (14) tries to pass the puck through New England's Rick Ley to Bobby Hull.

EUROPEAN REPORT



Hockey upset of the decade as Poland defeated the Soviet Union 6-4 in the 1976 World Tournament.

By NORM MAC LEAN

The Czechs finally beat the Russians as did the Swedes and the Poles in the 1976 World Tournament. The Czechs captured their first World title since 1949—and even the Soviet Union's victory in the 1976 Winter Olympics was tarnished by a disallowed Czech goal in an uphill 4-3 Soviet win.

With the Olympic competition having been staged in February, without Sweden, most European fans discounted the result and counted the Worlds played in April. The cheese became more binding when the Winnipeg Jets, staffed mostly with Swedish and Finnish players, captured the Avco Cup emblematic of the World Hockey Association championship. A new era of recognition for European hockey is dawning.

In North America the largest television audience of last season was the one watching the climactic clash between Russia and Czechoslovakia for the Olympic Gold Medal. The U.S.S.R. won that one by one goal, with the help of three questionable calls by Swedish referee Ake Hanquist. The world beyond the Atlantic Ocean became aware that Europe had more teams than just those inside the Russian Bear's borders.

Jan Starsi, the Czech co-coach said "The Referee was intimidated. We proved we are as good as the Russians. I think we are better."

The Czechs proved their point in the World Tournament and amazingly, the Poles and Swedes also beat the Reds, causing consternation in the Soviet camp. Even the tie with the Czechs in the final game was scant consolation.—

"There is no way the Swedes and

Poles should be able to compete with the Soviets and Czechs," said Anatoli Tarasov, the elder statesman of Russian hockey and former coach of the National team. Both those countries have lost their best players to the professionals in North America. Czechoslovakia has lost only Vaclav Nedomansky. But they still beat us."

Konstantin Loktev and Boris Kulagin were relieved as coaches of the National Team with Boris Mayorov and Victor Tikchonov taking over. Kulagin was made a scout.

The Big Four in Europe is Russia, Czechoslovakia, Finland and Sweden, but hockey is also played in West Germany, East Germany, Poland, Austria, Yugoslavia and Romania. Romania, by virtue of their work in the Olympics will move up to the ten team tournament set for Vienna between April 20 and May 9. Also



POLSKA-ZSRR 6:4

Bramki dla Polski zdobyli: Wieslaw Jobczyk-3 (w 22, 26 i 59 min.), Mieczyslaw Jaskierski-2 (w 10 i 23 min.) oraz Ryszard Nowinski (w 14 min.)

EUROPE•EUROPE•EUROPE•

competing are West Germany, Finland, Sweden, Czechoslovakia, Russia, Canada and the United States. Canada and the United States will be allowed to enter professionals, but Canada is hampered by the fact that the Stanley Cup playoffs are underway at the time of the Vienna competition.

The Dominion may enter one of the teams who are eliminated from the Stanley Cup playoffs. It is best to remember, that in Europe, Vienna is the one that counts and the recent World Cup was simply a Toronto Invitational Tournament.

The Big Four all try to play skilled scientific soccer on skates, but there are differences in the game played by each. The Russians are pass masters and pass more than twice as much as do the North American teams and one

third more than the other members of the European bloc.

The Czechs have materially copied the Russians, but they are innovative in different directions, especially around the net. They seem to make better use of screening techniques and tip in play than do the perfect-play Russians.

The Finns are the most physically strong specimens in Europe. They like the going rough and can dish it out. In a fight a Finlander can be a very tough proposition. It is well to remember, however, that the mental attitude of the players is different than those of the macho-first American and Canadian pros. Soccer is the sport in Europe and a dangerous rough play in soccer is merely a gentle push. Therefore, none of the European

teams really are rough by North American standards — and they are remiss in clearing the slot in front of the net. Boris Mikhailov literally camps in front — and we can imagine the fun Nedomansky, at six four and 215 pounds had when he was the Phil Esposito of the Continent. Without ever being molested, Big Ned must have had a ball.

The Swedes are swift skaters, tricky speedsters, who can handle the puck. Although they have a reputation for timidity, this is being overcome. People who were close to the scene will tell you that Ulf Sterner, the big Swedish star of the early sixties who had a tryout with the New York Rangers, was a victim of not fitting in socially with his teammates in both the NHL and with Baltimore of the AHL. They didn't pass him the puck, and took glee when he was bumped around. Instead of protecting the skilled Sterner, they laughed at him. Ulf had never been exposed to Canadian style body checking, and it was a tough adjustment.

The work of Ulf Nilsson, Anders Hedberg, Curt Larsson, Veli-Pekka Ketola, Willy Lindstrom, Mats Lindh, Thommie Bergman, Lars Eric Sjoberg and Hexi Bergman, were the primary reasons the Winnipeg Jets won the Avco Cup. With the exception of goalie Joe Daley, and Bobby Hull, almost all of the key Jets were Swedes or Finns.

Thus Europe is bubbling over about hockey. The Russian Bear's grip has loosened, although no one underestimates the Soviet power. And Europe has seen its stars develop to the point that they were able to win a Major League championship when moved almost en masse to Winnipeg.

Although the Swedes and Finns lost heavily to the pros on this side of the Ocean, they may have gained in the long run. Both countries had to go with their junior players and those players did the job in the Poland World Tournaments.

The Finns revamped their team after it finished fourth in The Olympics



Rangers' Phil Esposito chases Aleksandr Maltsev.

JSSIA•RUSSIA•RUSSIA•RUS

The biggest surprise in Russia wasn't the partial decline of the National team but the fact that Central Red Army or the Soviet Wings didn't win the Soviet first division title. That honor went to Spartak, the third team which toured in North America but had to lend its better players to the Red Army and the Wings when they played against the National Hockey League.

When Messrs. Aleksander Yakushev, Vladimir Shadrin and Yuri Liapkin got home to Moscow they reversed the usual order of things.

Besides the above three other Soviet First division teams are Himik Voskresensk, Dynamo Riga, Dynamo Moscow, Traktor, Tsheljabinsk, Torpedo Gorki, SKA Leningrad and Kristall Sorotov. The Army's Russian nom de plume is ZSKA Moscow, the Wings are Krylja Sovjetov Moscow and Spartak is Spartak Moscow. Shades of the Giants, Dodgers and Yankees all in one city.

Actually, the entire Soviet first division is centered around the Soviet capital. Each team plays 36 games in the regular schedule. The teams are sport clubs, which select their players for training as early as seven years of age. The Russian dry land training techniques have become familiar because of trips to North America, and because of the general fame of Olga Korbut, the world class gymnast.

The Soviet game is skating, with the most superior physical conditioning in the world. They pass more than any other country, or team and practice long and hard for perfect plays which will free one man in front, with an open net. They are the New York Rangers of the Frank Boucher era, and then some.

Anatoli Tarasov was the man who made the Russians the world power they are. Since entering the 1952 Olympics for the first time, the CCCP has captured four Olympic titles and eleven world championships. They were upset by the United States only Gold Medal in 1960, but have done so well that Canada, the motherland of the ice sport, hasn't won in the Olympics since 1952 and finally dropped its entry because most of its good players had turned professional.

The Russians are actually subsidized pros, especially trained to play for the team. Except for Vladislav Tretiak, whose great performance against the Montreal Canadiens on

New Year's eve last year will never be forgotten, the Russians may be a bit behind the NHL in the technique of playing goal.

They are also behind in playing the body, not because of physical weakness, but because of mental approach and a different skating style. The North American pro skates more upward than does the Russian who is bent in a different skating style. There is more hip movement in the Russian technique. The Canadian turns faster, the Russian skates faster, the Russian last longer and has more left in the third period.

Whether the Reds can come back from the disaster of Poland remains to be seen. Valery Kharlamov has a smashed up ankle and missed the Canada Cup play. Anatoli Gusev, the great defenseman got old, and simply was dropped, but not really replaced. Vladimir Petrov, who led the Soviet First Division scoring two seasons back, has been dropped for lack of interest.

Still the Russians have great firepower and would be serious

contenders for the NHL Stanley Cup, along with the Czechs if they played in the NHL. They would rate with Montreal, Boston, Philadelphia and the New York Islanders.

The Reds best line is that of Boris Mikhailov, Valery Kharlamov and Aleksander Maltsev.

A Soviet All-Star team would line up as follows:

Goal: Vladislav Tretiak, ZSKA

Defense: Valeri Vasilev, M. Dynamo

Defense: Vladimir Lutcheno, ZSKA

Center: Aleksandr Maltsev, Spartak

Wing: Aleksandr Yakushev, Spartak

Wing: Boris Mikhailov, ZSKA

Most Valuable Player: Valeri Kharlamov, ZSKA (injured)

Runnerup: Vladislav Tretiak, ZSKA

Best Defenseman: Valeri Vasilev, M. Dynamo

Best Pro Prospect: Serge Kapustin, Krylja Sovjetov

It must be noted that no Soviet player has ever defected, so the mention of Kapustin is pure fancy at this point.



Soviet goaltender Vladislav Tretiak

AKIA•CZECHOSLOVAKIA•CZ



Czech defenseman Oldrich Machac

The Czech First Division title was won by SONP Kladno. Other teams are Tesla Pardubice, Dukla Jihlava, CHZ Litinov, Slovan Bratislava, Sparta Prague, Motor C. Budejovice, ZKL Brno, Skoda Plzen, VSZ Kosice, TJ VZKG Ostrava and TJ Gottwaldov. They are unpronounceable, but the Czechs can play good solid positional hockey.

Maurice Richard and Stan Mikita, who was born in Sokolce, Czechoslovakia, are heroes in Prague. What coaches Jan Starsi and Karel Gut accomplished in winning the World title in 1976, is shown by thirteen

straight Russian World and Olympic wins. The Czechs had last won the World title in amateur play in 1949, in a tournament conducted in Prague. Russia didn't enter the Olympics until 1952, so even that far away win was hollow.

Many say that Jiri Holocek, the 34 year old Sparta Prague veteran is the best goalie in the world, better than Russia's Vladislav Tretiak or Montreal's Ken Dryden. He is a gymnast, who handles long shots better than Tretiak and is surer than Dryden. Whether he could do this under the strain of an 80 game NHL

type schedule with travel, as opposed to tournament play, is a question.

"Holocek is the best," says Bobby Hull, the Winnipeg Jets star. "I don't think anyone really compares."

In the World Tournament, six of the top ten scorers were Czech with speedy Vladimir Martinec leading the way. He fired 57 shots in ten games, and got 9 goals and 11 assists. Jiri Novak had 16 points, including 9 goals. He is a Czech version of Camille Henry, albeit a stronger and bigger version, as a tip in expert, and skilled artisan in front.

Milan Novy, who seems to log 40 minutes a game, killing penalties, playing the power play and taking faceoffs from his center post, also got nine goals and totaled 15 points. A never stop skater, Novy is the Bobby Clarke of Europe, although his backhanded faceoff style is said to be out of date by NHL experts.

Nineteen year Peter Stasny and 31 year old Jiri Holik each managed 12 points in the Worlds, as Stasny showed that the Czechs also have junior talent. Holik is another expert in front of the net.

In the main the Czechs do not pass as much as the Russians and shoot a bit more.

On defense 32 year old team captain Frantisek Pospisil is a solid player who could easily star in the NHL. So could Oldrich Machac of Brno, a seasonal rival of Pospisil, who plays for Kladno. Machac hits as does Jiri Bubla, a rugged physical specimen.

Kladno has Pospisil, Frantisek Kaberle, Novy and Edouard Novak. Novy and Novak usually play together with Josef Augusta. Martinec teamed with Stasny and Jiri Novak in the Olympics and the Worlds.

A Czech all star first team would line up as follows:

Goal: Jiri Holocek, Sparta Prague

Defense: Fran Pospisil, Kladno

Defense: Oldrich Machac, BRNO

Center: Milan Novy, Kladno

Wing: Jiri Holik, Dukla

Wing: Vladimir Martinec, Pardubice.

Most Valuable Player: Jiri Holocek, goalie, Sparta Prague.

Runnerup: Milan Novy, Kladno.

Best Defenseman: Fran Pospisil, Kladno.

Best Pro Prospect: Ivan Hlinka, Litvinov.

The Czechs play a pro oriented style game, with up and down positional play, strong individual skaters and their National Team possesses a bevy of strong defensemen and physically tough wings.

SWEDEN•SWEDEN•SWEDEN

Sweden has a top flight star in both the National Hockey League and the World Hockey Association. Borje Salming, the Toronto defenseman is the highest paid Maple Leaf in history. Ulf Nilsson makes the plays for Bobby Hull and Anders Hedberg for the Winnipeg Jets. But it was the work of goalie Goran Hogosta who enabled "Tre Konor" to outplay the Soviets in the World tourney.

In the Canada Cup the Swedes brought back many of their former stars from the NHL and WHA, although they insisted on excluding the Abrahamsson brothers, goalie Christer and defenseman Tommy. In the World play it was 22 year old Roland Ericksson who led the Swedes in scoring with 15 points. Mats Waldin, a defenseman, outplayed many big name stars and was named the outstanding blue liner in the tournament. Dan Labretten of Leksand played well and is signed with Winnipeg for 1976-77. So did Hans Jax who got 11 points.

Brynäs IF won the Swedish title in 1975-76 finally ending a jinx that had seen Leksand win the 1974-75 championship in sudden death overtime. The Abrahamssons come from Leksand, with Salming and Inge Hammarstrom coming from Brynäs IF.

In addition to Brynäs IF and Leksand, the Swedish First Division has teams representing Skellefteå AIK, Timrå IK, MoDo AIK, Färjestads BK, V. Frolunda IF, AIK, Södertälje SK, Djurgårdens IF, IF Björklöven, Mora IK, Örebro IK, Tingsryds AIF, Västerås IK, Tingsryds AIF, Västerås IK and IF Karlskoga - Bofors.

Tumba Johansson was the original Swedish hockey hero of the 1950s, with Sterner taking over in the early sixties. Sweden has never won an Olympic Gold Medal, but they have three World titles, in 1953, 1957 and 1962. That was the last year the Soviet Union failed to win the World competition until 1975-76.

The Swedes tend to shoot from further out than do the Russians and

Czechs and they literally fly on their blades. They have matured in regard to physical play and no longer can be considered pushovers in this respect.

Arne Stromberg, the former coach of the Swedish National team is still a big name in Sweden. Hans Lindberg, (31 year old former Brynäs star is the new coach.) Lindberg did pick five Winnipeg Jets (Hedberg, Nilsson, Lindstrom, Eric-Sjöberg, Bergman) plus Juha Widing of Los Angeles, Borje Salming and Hammarstrom, when he picked Team Sweden for the Canada Cup play.

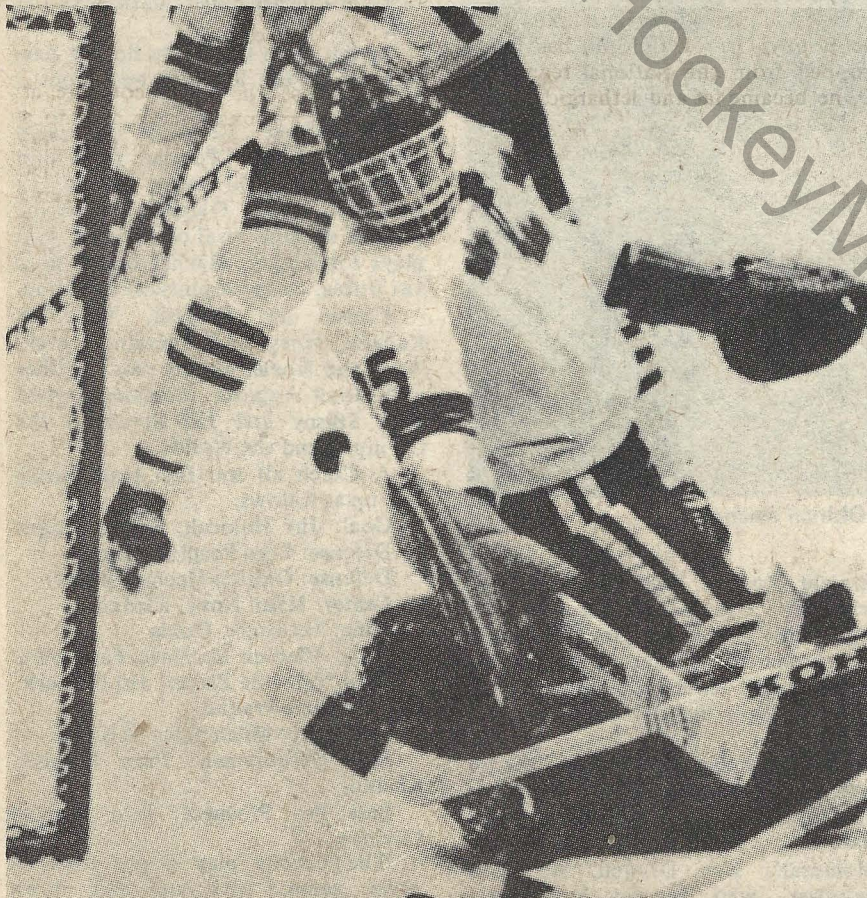
But the Swedish Nationals future lays with Hogosta, Waltin, Stig Salming, Borje's kid brother, goalie William Lofquist, Björn Johansson, Mats Ahlberg, Hans Jax, Jan-Olov Svensson, Lars Eric Esbjöras, Lars Eric Ericksson, Thomas Gradin, Dan Söderström, Dan Labretten and Lars Gunnar Lundberg. The Cleveland Barons drafted and signed Johansson, a defenseman as their number one pick.

The Swedish first division plays a thirty game schedule. Last year Morris and Darwin Mott played for Västra Frolunda and they have signed again for 1976-77. With a surplus of minor pro players in the United States and Canada some reverse lend lease may be worked out. Sweden usually is the first place a Canadian player likes to think about when he desires to play in Europe. Morris Mott is a former California Seal.

With Hogosta having outpointed Tretiak in the World tournament, Sweden is proud of its goalie situation. Curt Larsson is the backup to Joe Daley with Winnipeg, and Leif Holmquist is number two or three, with the Indianapolis Racers.

It must be remembered that the Swedes have graduated more players to the pros than any other European country. Still, their kids beat the Russians in the Poland World tournament in April of 1976. Of concern to the Swedish authorities is the continual raids of the WHA on its players.

Not all the WHA teams have bothered to pay the signing fees. This is the reason for the Abrahamsson furor. Winnipeg has paid its fees. Without the payment of the monies the Swedish junior and minor program would dry up. Therefore, the professional leagues in North America hold the future of pro style hockey in Sweden in their hands.



Swedish goaltender Goran Hogosta is challenging Tretiak and Holocek for top European honors.

FINLAND•FINLAND•FINLAND



Seppo Repo

The Finns have never won any type of Olympic medal, but they have reason to believe that they are gaining rapidly on their arch rivals the Russians. So far, no Finn has made it really big in North America, although Veli-Pekka Ketola is a valued center on the Winnipeg second line. Pekka Rautakallio of the Phoenix Roadrunners is a good defenseman and Heikki Riihiranta holds down a blue line spot with Winnipeg.

The Roadrunners are going to try an All-Finnish line this season made up of center Seppo Repo, Juhanni Tamminen on the left side and Lauri Mononen on the right. Repo played for Team Finland in the Canada Cup as did his linemates. Perhaps the Roadrunner will dress their all Finnish line with uniforms reading "SUOMI".

When the Finlanders lost to Team USA in the Olympics after trouncing the Americans twice by big scores in pre-Olympic play, they were bitter. And when the West Germans edged them out for the Bronze medal, they did something about it. They ripped apart the guts of their National Team and started over, mostly with juniors.

When the Canada Cup rolled around the Finns had three coaches, all of them new, in one way or another. Head coach duties were handled by Seppo Liitsola with Lasse Heikkila and Carl Brewer handling the bench. That's right, Brewer is the former NHL All Star who played in Finland, after quitting the Maple Leafs.

The physically rugged Finlanders

do not skate as well as the Swedes or Russians, but they skate plenty good. They are bigger and better in the and shoot the puck from further out than do the Russians. In this they are similar to the Swedes.

The Finnish champion last year was TPS, who won for the first time in twenty campaigns. TPS has goalie Urpo Ylonen, defenseman Seppo Lindstrom, an old savvy veteran at 34, and forwards Kari Johansson and Reijo Leppanen. Seppo Repo scored the winner in the last minute of play for TPS against the defending champion Tappara.

The Finnish First Division plays 36 games. TPS, Tappara, HIFK Helsinki, Ilves Tampere, Jokerit Helsinki, Lukko Rauma, Koo-Vee Tampere, Assat Pori, Sai Paa Laapeenranta and TuTo Turku are represented.

The Finns leading scorer is Jouni Rinne. Their three best goalies are Turk Broda look alike Antti Leppanen, the Fat Man of Finland, Markus Mattsson and Jorma Valtonen. Valtonen has been playing pro in Italy.

Pekka Marjamaki, at one time rated the Bobby Orr of Europe, has been dropped from the National team. At 29, he became fat and lethargic. Pekka could have been an NHL caliber All Star but didn't progress playing against players he was better than.

Timo Nummelin, Timo Saari, Hannu Hapalainen, Taipo Flinck, Reijo Laksola, Tapani Levo, Lasse Litma, Jouni Peltonen and Pertti

Valkeapaa are amongst their better rearguards.

Matti Murto played in the Olympics and did well, but skipped the Canada Cup amongst the forwards. Junior forward Matti Hagman disappointed in the Olympics, but will get better. Lasse Oksanen, another Finnish pro playing in Italy, is a name to remember.

Esa Peltonen, Tapani Koskinen, Harri Linnonmaa, Jorma Vehmanen, Hannu Kapanen, Matti Rautianinen and Pertti Loivulahti are other high caliber Finlanders up front.

A Finnish All Star team would line up as follows:

Goal: Antti Leppanen

Defense: Pekka Marjamaeki

Defense: Timo Saari

Center: Matti Murto

Wing: Seppo Repo

Wing: Jouni Rinne

Most Valuable Player: Seppo Repo

Best Defenseman: Pekka Marjamaeki

Best Pro Prospect: Matti Hagman, Seppo Ahokainen

In a sense the Finns compete at home in something that is akin to a fast Canadian Senior League just after the War. Perhaps the old Quebec Senior League would fit their present level. It is worth noting that Jean Beliveau came out of that league—and that Finland can be a rich vein of talent.



Matti Murto (17)

GERMANY—POLAND—YUGOSLAVIA

When West Germany edged out the United States and Finland for the Bronze medal and third place in the 1976 Olympics it marked the first ever medal for that country. It was almost a personal triumph for center Erich Kuenhacker, a native Czech, but a naturalized German.

Keunhacker, on the Pittsburgh list, is six foot six inch, 200 pounder of slender build, but can fly on his skates. He has great lateral movement. The question, as far as pro play in North America is whether he could stand the traffic in front of the net.

Other German players of ability are Kuenhacker's playing partner Alois Schloder, defenseman Ignaz Berndaner and forward Funk Lorenz.

Romania captured the "B" competition in the Olympics and will get a shot in the 1977 Vienna World Tournament as a result. Doru Tureanu and Eduard Pana are the best Romanian forwards, with Marian Pisaru and Marian Costea not too far behind. Romania's two goalies are Netedu Valerian and Morar Vasile.

Austria, Yugoslavia, Switzerland

and Bulgaria also competed at the "B" level, something the United States is familiar with. Team USA had to beat Yugoslavia to qualify for the A level at the Olympics. And team USA has been forced to compete at the B level in the past, always winning when playing at the secondary grade.

Franz Zbontar is the best player on Yugoslavia, along with Edvard Hafner. Zbontar is a Lou Angotti look alike. Roman Smolej also shows promise.

The Austrians boast Franz Voves and the Swiss have the high scoring line of Anton Neininger, Nando Mathieu and Rolf Tschiemer. Norm Beaudin of the Winnipeg Jets will play and coach in Switzerland this season. In the past, stars such as Andy Bathgate have spent a season in Switzerland.

Switzerland has an eight team first division playing a 28 game schedule. Teams are located in Bern, Chaux-de-Fonds, Langnau, Kloten, Villars, Ambri-Piotta, Sierre and Geneva-Servette.

West Germany's first Division plays 36 games. Franchises are located in Dusseldorf, Berliner SC, Krefelder EV,

EV Landshut, EV Fussen, VFL Bad Nauheim, EC Koln, SC Riessersee, EC Bad Tolz, ESV Kaufbueren.

Many of the American Olympic players have played in West Germany from time to time. Steve Sertich, who played on the USA's top line spent two years in Germany.

Poland's biggest moment in hockey came when their National Team defeated Russia 6-4, after losing 16-1 in the Olympics. The Poles play lethargically at times, but go like gangbusters when they sense a victory. The play a 36 game First Division schedule with clubs representing Podhale Nowy Targ, Baildon Katowice, GKS Katowice, Naprzod Janow, Polania, Polonia Bydgoszcz, LKS Lodz, Legia Varsova, Zaglebie, Sosnowiec, Pomorzanian Torun and Unia Oswiecim. Their top line is Leszek Tokarz, Stefan Chowanec and Josef Batkiewicz.

The Poles seemingly play a sleeper role. They have beaten Team USA in World competition, when that didn't seem possible, and their win over Russia made national heroes of the amateur Polish players.



Lodzki Klub Sportowy

American Hockey League Statistics

Final Standings

NORTH DIVISION

	P	W	L	T	F	A	Pts
Nova Scotia.....	76	48	20	8	326	209	104
Rochester.....	76	42	25	9	304	243	93
Providence.....	76	34	34	8	294	300	76
Springfield.....	76	33	39	4	267	321	70

SOUTH DIVISION

	P	W	L	T	F	A	Pts
Hershey.....	76	39	31	6	304	275	84
Richmond.....	76	29	39	8	262	297	66
New Haven.....	76	29	39	8	261	295	66
Baltimore.....	76	21	48	7	238	316	49

TOP 20 SCORERS

	G	A	P	PM
Jean-Guy Gratton, Hershey.....	73	35	58	93
Ron Andruff, Nova Scotia.....	74	42	46	88
Greg Holst, Providence.....	69	37	44	81
Guy Chouinard, Nova Scotia.....	70	40	40	80
Gordie Clark, Rochester.....	72	30	49	79
Pierre Mondou, Nova Scotia.....	74	34	43	77
Fred Speck, Baltimore.....	76	23	52	75
Larry Fullan, Richmond.....	76	18	47	75
Wayne Schaab, Richmond.....	74	36	36	72
Tom Colley, New Haven.....	76	38	31	69
Norm Dube, Springfield.....	66	31	38	69
Barry Merrell, Rochester.....	70	28	41	69
Dave Hynes, Rochester.....	63	37	30	67
Billy Inglis, Springfield.....	70	19	48	67
Peter Laframboise, Hershey.....	69	18	47	65
Larry Wright, Richmond.....	72	28	35	63
Rene Drolet, Rochester.....	74	23	40	63
Lynn Powis, Providence.....	52	30	31	61
Jerry Byers, Providence.....	74	27	34	61
Rick Chinnick, New Haven.....	75	21	40	61

FINAL SCORING BY TEAMS

BALTIMORE

	G	A	P	PM
Fred Speck.....	76	23	52	75
Don Grierson.....	76	37	23	60
Dennis Giannini.....	76	36	21	57
Jerry Badiuk.....	72	14	32	46
Morris Stefaniw.....	76	7	39	46
Murray Kuntz.....	78	28	18	46
Springfield.....	39	17	12	29
Baltimore.....	39	11	6	17
Kent Douglas.....	66	5	33	38
Bob Craig.....	76	18	19	37
Mike Lampman.....	53	13	24	37
Ray Clearwater.....	62	8	27	35
Hugh Harvey.....	60	22	10	32
Springfield.....	44	15	9	24
Baltimore.....	16	7	1	8
Dick Sarrazin.....	55	14	13	27
Bill Mikkelsen.....	76	3	18	21
Doug Horbul.....	68	9	11	20
Springfield.....	25	2	1	3
Baltimore.....	43	7	10	17
Howie Menard.....	38	7	11	18
Vic Mercredi.....	52	6	9	15
Ralph MacSweyn.....	74	4	8	12
Steve Richardson.....	16	4	7	11
Jim McCrimmon.....	56	2	9	11
Providence.....	47	1	9	10
Baltimore.....	9	1	0	1
Paul Curtis.....	54	2	8	10
Jack Eggers.....	15	4	4	8
Rick Foley.....	4	2	2	4
Mike Marson.....	12	1	3	4
Jim Edgeworth.....	16	1	2	3
Dunc Wilson.....	3	0	1	1
Dave Hainsworth.....	55	0	0	0
Steve Wirth.....	2	0	0	0
Paul Granchukoff.....	2	0	0	0

HERSHEY

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Jean-Guy Gratton.....	73	35	58	93	78
Pete Laframboise.....	69	18	47	65	79
Derek Smith.....	67	28	32	60	74
Michel Deziel.....	71	25	30	55	42
Steve Cardwell.....	72	22	33	55	165
Yves Bergeron.....	67	26	23	49	87
Wayne Blanchin.....	54	24	22	46	17
Andre Deschamps.....	67	25	14	39	185
Jacques Cossette.....	59	18	20	38	117
Kelly Pratt.....	62	13	25	38	96
Ron Jones.....	73	7	30	37	42
Richmond.....	20	0	7	7	8
Hershey.....	53	7	23	30	34
Nelson Dabene.....	69	14	19	33	12
Gary McAdam.....	24	14	13	27	45
Bob Stumpf.....	69	2	22	24	128
Marion Faubert.....	39	7	16	23	37
Ken Breitenbach.....	57	1	19	20	58
Morris Titanic.....	35	6	13	19	10
Ted Snell.....	4	15	19	24	24
Larry Bignell.....	29	1	9	10	85
Terry Martin.....	19	3	6	9	18
Lee Fogelin.....	20	1	8	9	61
Bob McManama.....	8	3	3	6	6
Dennis Owchar.....	7	5	1	6	13

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Dean Sheremeta.....	34	2	1	3	47
Don Edwards.....	39	0	3	3	10
Paul McIntosh.....	12	0	2	2	63
Gordon Laxton.....	5	0	0	0	16
Michel Plassé.....	5	0	0	0	2
Gary Inness.....	2	0	0	0	2

NEW HAVEN

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Tom Colley.....	76	38	31	69	35
Rick Chinnick.....	75	21	40	61	8
Rick McCann.....	73	15	42	57	47
Brian McCutcheon.....	58	27	19	46	22
Don Martineau.....	64	15	20	35	129
Bill Lechead.....	24	17	13	30	24
Germain Gagnon.....	30	12	17	29	16
Springfield.....	4	0	1	1	2
New Haven.....	26	12	16	28	14
Scott McPhail.....	53	12	13	25	24
Doug Romboough.....	42	5	20	25	28
Larry Giroux.....	67	1	24	25	121
Bob Gryp.....	31	12	11	23	38
Richmond.....	9	2	2	4	10
New Haven.....	22	10	9	19	28
John Flesch.....	31	11	10	21	95
Jerome Engle.....	58	1	20	21	232
Tim Young.....	13	7	13	20	16
Tommy Williams.....	20	4	16	20	4
Mike Korney.....	21	8	9	17	31
Brian Watts.....	57	8	9	17	14
Bill Plegier.....	48	3	14	17	58
Jim Nahrang.....	49	4	11	15	74
Norm Gratton.....	29	7	7	14	4
Pierre Jarry.....	13	5	7	12	18
Blake Dunlop.....	10	2	10	12	8
Chris Ahrens.....	70	2	8	10	121
Ron Anderson.....	20	3	6	9	14
Richmond.....	20	2	3	5	6
New Haven.....	17	1	3	4	8
Lowell Ostlund.....	48	0	8	8	97
Dwight Bialowas.....	17	1	6	7	15
Glen Burdon.....	23	1	5	6	6
Barry Salvoara.....	6	1	3	4	14
Frank Bathe.....	7	0	1	1	24
Brian Holderness.....	29	0	1	1	0
Glen McLeod.....	3	0	0	0	2
Terry Richardson.....	4	0	0	0	2
Peter McDuffe.....	21	0	0	0	4
Bob Kreiger.....	1	0	0	0	0

NOVA SCOTIA

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Ron Andruff.....	74	42	46	88	58
Guy Chouinard.....	70	40	40	80	14
Pierre Mondou.....	74	34	43	77	30
Don Howse.....	68	24	36	60	34
Richard Lemieux.....	60	25	23	48	37
Glen Goldup.....	65	23	22	45	131
Sean Shanahan.....	64	18	26	44	91
Kelly Greenbank.....	62	12	32	44	19
Mike Polich.....	75	24	19	43	66
Noel Price.....	73	2	37	39	55
Paul Woods.....	67	17	21	38	38
Brian Engblom.....	73	4	34	38	79
Rick Chartraw.....	33	12	24	36	49
Jim Cohoon.....	69	12	19	31	24
Ken Houston.....	27	14	15	29	56
Gordon McTavish.....	44	12	17	29	69
Bill Nyrop.....	52	3	25	28	30
Chuck Luksa.....	73	5	13	18	75
Jean Lemieux.....	11	1	9	10	2
Gilles Lupien.....	56	2	6	13	134
Dave Elenbaas.....	48	0	3	3	14
Ed Walsh.....	31	0	3	3	2
Rick Bowness.....	2	0	1	1	0

PROVIDENCE

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Greg Holst.....	69	37	44	81	77
Lynn Powis.....	52	30	31	61	54
Jerry Byers.....	74	27	34	61	28
Boyd Anderson.....	76	27	29	56	43
Eddie Johnstone.....	58	23	33	56	102
Doug Palazzari.....	55	19	32	51	72
Dale Lewis.....	65	14	27	41	37
Bernie Lukowich.....	64	21	17	38	62
Rick Bourbonnais.....	64	18	17	35	96
Brian Ogilvie.....	47	16	18	34	61
Jamie Masters.....	62	7	27	34	86
Al Simmons.....	61	2	30	32	61
Richmond.....	5	0	5	5	13
Providence.....	56	2	25	27	48
Gerry Teeple.....	37	10	19	29	23
Dave Maloney.....	26	5	17	22	81
Jerry Holland.....	28	9	11	20	11
Mitch Babin.....	54	8	9	17	14
Gordon Buynak.....	70	3	14	17	79
Duane Pentland.....	59	0	13	13	51
Pierre Huras.....	55	0	12	12	102
Pierre Laganiere.....	12	4	6	10	9
Bruce Cowick.....	38	3	6	9	38
Greg Hickey.....	31	2	6	8	30
Ed Staniewski.....	29	0	3	3	4
Ken Richardson.....	3	0	1	1	4
Doug Seater.....	16	0	1	1	14
Yves Belanger.....	10	0	0	0	4
Gary Bromley.....	7	0	0	0	2

RICHMOND

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Larry Fullan.....	76	18	57	75	26
Wayne Schaab.....	75	36	36	72	31
Larry Wright.....	72	28	35	63	38
Andre Peloffy.....	67	29	30	59	78
Terry Murray.....	67	8	48	56	95
Alain Langlois.....	74	21	28	49	61
New Haven.....	53	14	17	31	34
Richmond.....	21	7	11	18	27
Steve Coates.....	69	25	19	44	141
Dave Kelly.....	74	21	19	40	156
Bob Sirois.....	26	14	18	32	10
John Paddock.....	42	11	14	25	98
Serge Lajeunesse.....	57	7	17	24	42
Alex Forsyth.....	71	7	16	23	19
Bob Ritchie.....	42	12	10	22	19
Richard Nantais.....	62	11	11	22	122
New Haven.....	38	8	6	14	79
Springfield.....	3	0	1	1	4
Richmond.....	21	3	0	7	39
Steve Hull.....	13	5	15	20	12
Jim Hryciuk.....	56	6	13	19	43
Steve Short.....	74	5	14	19	302
Gordie Smith.....	50	2	13	15	80
Willy Brossart.....	30	2	7	9	22
Norm Barnes.....	67	2	7	9	74
Paul Holmgren.....	6	4	4	8	23
Greg Joly.....	3	3	2	5	4
Pete Scamurra.....	18	2	1	3	12
Dennis McLean.....	8	0	1	1	2
Blair Mackasey.....	9	1	0	1	4
Jerome Mrazek.....	20	0	1	1	4
Don McLean.....	20	0	0	0	16
Doug Ferguson.....	12	0	0	0	4
Dean Boylan.....	5	0	0	0	2
Jack McIlhargey.....	4	0	0	0	17
Michel Belhumeur.....	45	0	0	0	10
Paul Nicholson.....	4	0	0	0	0

ROCHESTER

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Gordie Clark.....	72	30	49	79	7
Barry Merrell.....	70	28	41	69	20
Dave Hynes.....	63	37	30	67	20
Rene Drolet.....	74	23	40	63	42
Paul O'Neil.....	49	35	16	51	17
Ray Maluta.....	74	3	43	46	170

	GP	MIN	GA	SO	AVG
Dunc Wilson, Balt.	6	325	15	1	2.77
Don Edwards, Hers.	39	2253	128	3	3.41
Gordon Laxton, Hers.	31	1857	104	0	3.36
Rocky Menard, Hers.	2	80	4	0	3.00
Michel Plasse, Hers.	5	278	25	0	5.40
Gary Inness, Hers.	2	119	9	0	4.54
Brian Holderness, N.H.	29	1734	99	1	3.43
Peter McDuffe, N.H.	21	1245	85	-	4.10
Doug Grant, N.H.	23	1392	95	0	4.10
Dave Elenbaas, N.S.	48	2821	114	5	2.42
Ed Walsh, N.S.	31	1782	91	2	3.06
Yves Belanger, Prov.	10	620	37	0	3.58

	GP	MIN	GA	SO	AVG
Doug Soetaert, Prov.	16	896	65	0	4.35
Ed Staniowski, Prov.	29	1709	108	0	3.79
Bob Saue, Prov.	14	848	44	0	3.11
Gary Bromley, Prov.	7	405	30	0	4.44
Paul Harrison, Prov.	3	145	13	0	5.38
Michel Belhumeur, Rich.	45	2679	159	3	3.56
Jerome Mrazek, Rich.	20	1135	72	2	3.81
Garth Malarchuk, Rich.	1	60	6	0	6.00
Bernie Wolfe, Rich.	3	147	6	0	2.44
Rejean Lemelin, Rich.	7	402	30	0	4.48
Ross Brooks, Roch.	34	2056	103	2	3.00
Ken Broderick, Roch.	42	2541	136	2	3.21

	GP	MIN	GA	SO	AVG
Rick LeMay, Roch.	1	20	1	0	3.00
Dave Reece, Spg.	20	1202	78	0	3.89
Rocky Farr, Spg.	6	222	30	0	8.11
Ed Humphreys, Spg.	14	850	47	0	3.32
Bob Taylor, Spg.	27	1434	104	0	4.35
... Springfield.	23	1230	86	0	4.20
... Richmond.	4	204	18	0	5.29
Terry Richardson.	24	1323	91	0	4.13
... Springfield.	20	1080	77	0	4.28
... New Haven.	4	243	14	0	3.46

Calder Cup Playoff Picture

PLAYOFF FINALS

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Nova Scotia	5	4	1	24	16	8
Hershey	5	1	4	16	24	2

(Nova Scotia wins best-of-seven series 4-1)

GAMES COMPLETED

Wed. April 21
Hershey 3 at Nova Scotia 6
Fri. April 23
Hershey 2 at Nova Scotia 8
Sat. April 24
Nova Scotia 1 at Hershey 5
Mon. April 26
Nova Scotia 4 at Hershey 2
Wed. April 28
Hershey 4 at Nova Scotia 5

SEMI-FINALS

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Nova Scotia	4	4	0	22	9	8
Rochester	4	0	4	9	22	0

(Nova Scotia wins best-of-seven series 4-0)

GAMES COMPLETED

Mon. April 12
Rochester 2 at Nova Scotia 6
Wed. April 14
Rochester 3 at Nova Scotia 5
Fri. April 16
Nova Scotia 5 at Rochester 1
Sun. April 18
Nova Scotia 6 at Rochester 3

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Hershey	5	4	1	28	14	8
Richmond	5	1	4	14	28	2

(Hershey wins best-of-seven series 4-1)

GAMES COMPLETED

Sat. April 10
Richmond 4 at Hershey 2
Sun. April 11
Hershey 4 at Richmond 3
Tue. April 13
Richmond 1 at Hershey 3
Fri. April 16
Hershey 7 at Richmond 5
Sat. April 17
Richmond 1 at Hershey 2

QUARTER-FINALS

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Rochester	3	3	0	14	8	6
Providence	3	0	3	8	14	0

(Rochester wins best-of-five series 3-0)

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Richmond	3	3	0	10	3	6
New Haven	3	0	3	3	10	0

(Richmond wins best-of-five series 3-0)

TOP PLAYOFF SCORERS

	GP	G	A	P
Guy Chouinard, Nova Scotia	9	6	9	15
Rich Lemieux, Nova Scotia	9	8	6	14
Ron Andruff, Nova Scotia	9	5	8	13
Glenn Goldup, Nova Scotia	9	8	3	11
Sean Shanahan, Nova Scotia	9	4	6	10
Mario Faubert, Hershey	10	4	6	10
Jacques Cossette, Hershey	10	7	2	9
Mike Polich, Nova Scotia	9	4	5	9
Nelson Debenedet, Hershey	9	4	5	9
Derek Smith, Hershey	10	4	5	9

PLAYOFF SCORING BY TEAMS

NOVA SCOTIA

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Guy Chouinard	9	6	9	15	0
Richard Lemieux	9	8	6	14	4
Ron Andruff	9	5	8	13	9
Glenn Goldup	9	8	3	11	33
Sean Shanahan	9	4	6	10	11
Mike Polich	9	4	5	9	6
Brian Engblom	9	1	7	8	26
Don Howse	9	2	5	7	9
Noel Price	8	0	7	7	12
Pierre Mondou	9	1	5	6	4
Gordon McAvish	9	3	2	5	18
Jim Cahoon	9	2	2	4	0
Gilles Lupien	9	0	4	4	29
Paul Woods	9	2	1	3	0
Gary Goldart	9	0	2	2	0
Chuck Luksa	9	0	2	2	6
Ron Busniuk	1	0	0	0	4
Dave Elenbaas	9	0	0	0	2
Ed Walsh	9	0	0	0	2

HERSHEY

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Mario Faubert	10	4	6	10	14
Jacques Cossette	10	7	2	9	13
Nelson Debenedet	9	4	5	9	6
Derek Smith	10	4	5	9	4
Yves Bergeron	10	2	4	6	14
Ron Jones	10	1	5	6	9
Gary McAdam	10	3	2	5	9
Pete Laframboise	7	2	3	5	6
Wayne Bianchin	6	1	3	4	4
Jean Guy Gratton	8	1	3	4	0
Morris Titanic	10	2	1	3	8
Andre Deschamps	6	1	2	3	19
Ken Breitenbach	10	1	2	3	6
Bob Stumpf	10	1	2	3	4
Steve Cardwell	9	0	2	2	11
Larry Bignell	10	0	1	1	29
Don Edwards	10	0	1	1	2
Michel Deziel	4	0	0	0	2
Kelly Pratt	1	0	0	0	0
Dean Sheremeta	2	0	0	0	0
Ted Snell	10	0	0	0	0

RICHMOND

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Wayne Schaab	8	5	3	8	2
Larry Fullan	8	2	6	8	2
Dave Kelly	8	3	4	7	19
Alex Forsyth	8	2	5	7	0
Richard Nantais	8	2	4	6	33
Larry Wright	6	2	3	5	0
Terry Murray	6	1	4	5	2
Jim Hryciuk	8	3	1	4	0
Gordie Smith	8	0	4	4	28
Andre Poloffy	8	2	1	3	8
Willy Brossart	8	0	3	3	2
Steve Hull	8	0	3	3	4
John Paddock	8	0	3	3	5
Alain Langlois	8	1	0	1	10
Steve Short	8	1	0	1	15
Serge Lajeunesse	3	0	0	0	2
Norm Barnes	8	0	0	0	2

ROCHESTER

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Barry Smith	7	4	4	8	5
Paul O'Neil	6	4	3	7	4
Ron Garwasiuk	7	2	5	7	4
Dave Hynes	7	3	2	5	11
Barry Merrell	7	3	2	5	2

GP G A P PM

Gordie Clark	7	2	3	5	5
Al Sims	7	1	4	5	11
Rick Adduono	7	2	1	3	7
Ray Maluta	7	0	2	2	6
Rick Pagnutti	7	0	2	2	9
Doug Halward	4	1	0	1	4
Jim Jones	7	1	0	1	11
Mike Milbury	3	0	1	1	13
Mike Amodeo	4	0	1	1	0
Steve Longdon	5	0	1	1	0
Dunc Rousseau	5	0	1	1	12
Rene Drolet	7	0	1	1	0
Ross Brooks	7	0	0	0	4
Brian Murphy	2	0	0	0	0
Ron Snell	2	0	0	0	0

PROVIDENCE

Garry Teeple	3	4	0	4	4
Dale Lewis	3	1	1	2	0
Doug Palazzari	3	1	1	2	2
Brian Derksen	1	0	2	2	2
Jerry Byers	3	0	2	2	2
Pierre Laganiere	3	0	2	2	0
Brian Ogilvie	3	0	2	2	9
Al Simmons	3	0	2	2	0
Jamie Masters	1	0	1	1	2
Rick Bourbonnais	2	1	0	1	2
Jerry Holland	3	0	1	1	0
Larry Huras	3	0	1	1	0
Bruce Cowick	1	0	0	0	0
Mitch Babin	2	0	0	0	0
Boyd Anderson	3	0	0	0	9
Gordon Buynak	3	0	0	0	4
Greg Holst	3	0	0	0	22
Ed Johnstone	3	0	0	0	14
Duane Pentland	3	0	0	0	2

NEW HAVEN

Jerry Engle	3	1	0	1	6
John Flesch	3	1	0	1	2
Germain Gagnon	3	1	0	1	0
Rick Chinnick	3	0	1	1	0
Tom Colley	3	0	1	1	0
Don Martineau	3	0	1	1	2
Bill Plager	3	0	1	1	4
Tommy Williams	3	0	1	1	0
Chris Ahrens	3	0	0	0	12
Ron Anderson	3	0	0	0	0
Larry Giroux	3	0	0	0	0
Norm Gratton	3	0	0	0	0
Bob Gryp	3	0	0	0	14
Rick McCann	3	0	0	0	0
Scott McPhail	3	0	0	0	0
Lowell Ostlund	3	0	0	0	0
Doug Rombough	3	0	0	0	0

PLAYOFF GOALING

	MIN	GP	GA	AVG
Don Edwards, Hers.	293	5	18	3.68
Gordon Laxton, Hers.	309	6	19	3.69
Peter McDuffe, N.H.	60	1	4	4.00
Terry Richardson, N.H.	126	2	6	2.86
Dave Elenbaas, N.S.	302	5	16	3.17
Ed Walsh, N.S.	240	4	9	2.25
Yves Belanger, Prov.	120	2	8	4.00
Doug Soetaert, Prov.	59	1	6	6.10
Michel Belhumeur, Rich.	194	4	7	2.17
Jerome Mrazek, Rich.	289	5	14	2.91
Ross Brooks, Roch.	239	4	17	4.27
Ken Broderick, Roch.	180	3	12	4.00

Central Hockey League Statistics

Final Standings

	P	W	L	T	F	A	PTS
Tulsa	76	45	21	10	301	228	100
Dallas	76	41	24	11	282	211	93
Salt Lake	76	37	35	4	300	299	78
Oklahoma City	76	32	34	10	256	263	74
Fort Worth	76	29	31	16	287	271	74
Tucson	76	14	53	9	242	396	37

TOP 20 SCORERS

	GP	G	A	P
Jim Wiley, Tulsa	75	33	63	96
Tom Cassidy, Okla. City	76	35	50	85
Denis Melache, Salt Lake	75	21	59	80
Warren Williams, Salt Lake	60	31	46	77
Moe L'Abbe, Dallas	76	38	38	76
Andy Spruce, Tulsa	75	29	46	75
Lyle Bradley, Salt Lake	76	17	57	74
Frank Spring, Salt Lake	75	44	29	73

FINAL SCORING BY TEAMS

DALLAS

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Moe L'Abbe.....	76	38	38	76	41
Michel Archambault.....	76	26	47	73	10
Gary Donaldson.....	68	33	29	72	26
Duane Wylie.....	74	30	40	70	28
Kim Kolfelt.....	57	29	35	64	35
Terry Smith.....	60	22	30	52	36
Dan Hinton.....	75	20	32	52	105

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Randy Holt.....	64	6	46	52	161
Mike O'Connell.....	70	6	37	43	50
Rejean Giroux.....	50	15	18	33	19
Ian McKegney.....	76	3	29	32	20
Rob Palmer.....	62	14	17	31	56
Dave Elliott.....	67	14	15	29	57
Pierre Giroux.....	62	8	14	22	69
Dave Logan.....	40	3	11	14	131
Yvon Bilodeau.....	16	5	5	10	10
Bob Volpe.....	21	0	1	1	38
Mike Veisor.....	62	0	1	1	2

OKLAHOMA CITY

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Tom Cassidy.....	76	35	50	85	124
Scott Garland.....	58	19	40	59	53
Ken Richardson.....	70	19	33	52	17
Mike Kelly.....	75	17	22	39	45
Les Burgess.....	72	18	20	38	54
Blaine Stoughton.....	30	14	22	36	24
Mike Ruest.....	73	13	19	32	50
Mark Heaslip.....	76	10	22	32	48
Okla. City.....	33	3	8	11	16
Fort Worth.....	43	7	14	21	32
Paul Evans.....	67	7	23	30	179
Bob Warner.....	74	7	20	27	117
Guy Delparte.....	72	10	14	24	74
Don Ashby.....	26	9	14	23	36
Paul Daigle.....	42	7	16	23	32
Mike Korney.....	18	8	6	14	20
Ron Clarke.....	64	0	10	10	38
Kurt Walker.....	59	4	5	9	184
Mike Palmateer.....	42	0	3	3	18
Pierre Hamel.....	39	0	1	1	36
Kevin Kemp.....	33	0	1	1	31

FORT WORTH

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Bob Bourne.....	62	29	44	73	80
Brad Anderson.....	74	32	40	72	57
Lorne Stamler.....	76	33	33	66	12
Dave Salvian.....	74	38	21	59	72
Dennis Abgrall.....	64	21	36	57	34
Nail Nicholson.....	74	16	39	55	119
Pat Price.....	72	6	44	50	119
Jim Peters.....	76	16	30	46	17
Ron Kennedy.....	66	17	27	44	72
Bart Crasheley.....	62	11	32	43	51
Phil Hoene.....	76	13	22	35	14
Walt Ledingham.....	55	13	19	32	20

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Alf Handrahan.....	62	8	17	25	205
Fort Worth.....	23	5	5	10	69
Okla City.....	39	3	12	15	136
Jim Witherspoon.....	61	0	13	13	102
Keith Kokkala.....	26	0	4	4	100
Bill Hughes.....	52	0	3	3	25
Ken McPhail.....	19	0	1	1	46
Rick Charron.....	26	0	1	1	6
Glenn Johnson.....	3	0	0	0	8

SALT LAKE

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Denis Meloche.....	75	21	59	80	83
Warren Williams.....	60	31	46	77	171
Lyle Bradley.....	76	17	57	74	65
Frank Spring.....	75	44	29	73	50
Brent Meeke.....	76	23	39	62	71
Rick Kessell.....	54	16	39	55	19
John Martin.....	76	17	31	48	22
Paul Tantarini.....	75	9	23	32	325
Tom Price.....	59	11	15	26	77
Glenn Patrick.....	62	7	18	25	140
Ken Desjardine.....	20	9	8	17	21
Wayne King.....	21	9	6	15	30
Gary Holt.....	34	1	12	13	77
Don McLean.....	37	2	7	9	56
Bob Geoffrion.....	42	0	3	3	4
Ernie Miller.....	5	0	2	2	2
Greg Smith.....	10	0	1	1	7
John Tweedle.....	16	0	0	0	4
Larry Hendrick.....	4	0	0	0	0
Jim Warden.....	4	0	0	0	0

TULSA

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Jim Wiley.....	76	33	63	96	21
Andy Spruce.....	75	29	46	75	100
Dan Gloor.....	65	23	48	71	16
Leon Rochefort.....	60	25	40	65	2
Brad Gassoff.....	68	36	28	64	295
Rick Bowness.....	64	25	38	63	160
Cam Botting.....	73	22	29	51	68
Bill Platt.....	73	30	20	50	163
Dan Seguin.....	62	22	28	50	56
Larry McIntyre.....	76	7	29	36	36
Richard Mulhern.....	56	7	26	33	84
Glen Richardson.....	45	10	16	26	27
Pat Ribble.....	73	3	22	25	98
Glen Surbey.....	75	3	22	25	71
Bob Bilodeau.....	75	4	16	20	67
Barry Wilcox.....	44	8	8	16	36

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Gregg Boddy.....	24	0	9	9	12
Dan Brady.....	31	0	2	2	4
Bruce Bullock.....	17	0	0	0	10

TUCSON

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Mike Hobin.....	66	27	39	66	31
Steve West.....	51	25	40	65	29
Gordon Titcomb.....	71	28	31	59	52
Mike Sleep.....	69	23	30	53	46
Neil Lysseng.....	74	17	30	47	64
Dan Mandryk.....	70	20	23	43	69
Norm Courmoyer.....	55	17	25	42	46
Dennis Olmstead.....	75	11	30	41	47
Dave Walter.....	47	17	16	33	54
Rick Newell.....	57	9	23	32	104
Blair Davidson.....	75	6	20	26	59
Bob Liddington.....	23	12	12	24	20
Mike Stevens.....	68	3	15	18	163
Duane Bray.....	76	0	9	9	200
Bruce Abbey.....	20	4	2	6	15
George Tower.....	53	1	5	6	86
Brian Erickson.....	35	1	4	5	24
Roger Swanson.....	42	0	0	0	2
Clay Hebertson.....	7	0	0	0	2
Bruce Aberhart.....	18	0	0	0	0

GOALING RECORDS

	GP	MIN	GA	SO	AVG
Bob Volpe, Dal.....	21	1006	36	2	2.15
Bruce Bullock, Tul.....	17	958	39	1	2.44
Curt Ridley, Tul.....	30	1779	79	2	2.66
Mike Veisor, Dal.....	62	3361	174	5	2.93
Doug Favell, OKC.....	4	240	12	0	3.00
Pierre Hamel, OKC.....	39	2038	107	2	3.15
Bill Hughes, FTW.....	52	3075	170	3	3.32
Ernie Miller, SLC.....	42	2306	131	3	3.41
Dan Brady, Tul.....	31	1816	105	2	3.47
Mike Palmateer, OKC.....	42	2274	137	1	3.61
Jim Weaver, SLC.....	9	459	30	0	3.92
Rick Charron, FTW.....	26	1475	97	0	3.95
Ray Martyniuk.....	34	1858	130	2	4.20
Salt Lake.....	12	678	39	1	3.45
Tucson.....	22	1180	91	1	4.63
Larry Hendrick, SLC.....	16	929	71	1	4.59
Roger Swanson, TUC.....	42	2069	167	0	4.84
Nick Sanza, TUC.....	5	247	22	0	5.34
Clay Hebertson, TUC.....	7	379	40	0	6.33
Bruce Aberhart, TUC.....	18	677	74	0	6.56
Jim Warden, SLC.....	4	180	22	0	7.33

Adams Cup Playoff Picture

Finals

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Tulsa.....	5	4	1	19	12	8
Dallas.....	5	1	4	12	19	2

(Tulsa wins best-of-seven series 4-1)

GAMES COMPLETED

Fri. April 16

Dallas 2 at Tulsa 4

Sat. April 17

Dallas 4 at Tulsa 3

Tue. April 20

Tulsa 3 at Dallas 2

Thu. April 22

Tulsa 2 at Dallas 1

Fri. April 23

Dallas 3 at Tulsa 7

Semi-Finals

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Tulsa.....	4	4	0	17	6	8
Oklahoma City.....	4	0	4	6	17	0

(Tulsa wins best-of-seven series 4-0)

GAMES COMPLETED

Wed. April 7

Oklahoma City 2 at Tulsa 5

Fri. April 9

Oklahoma City 3 at Tulsa 5

Sat. April 10

Tulsa 3 at Oklahoma City 0

Wed. April 14

Tulsa 4 at Oklahoma City 1

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Dallas.....	5	4	1	22	11	8
Salt Lake.....	5	1	4	11	22	2

(Dallas wins best-of-seven series 4-1)

GAMES COMPLETED

Wed. April 7

Salt Lake 1 at Dallas 3

Fri. April 9

Salt Lake 1 at Dallas 4

Sat. April 10

Dallas 6 at Salt Lake 7

Mon. April 12

Dallas 4 at Salt Lake 2

Wed. April 14

Salt Lake 0 at Dallas 5

TOP PLAYOFF SCORERS

	GP	G	A	P
Brad Gassoff, Tulsa.....	9	5	6	11
Kirk Bowman, Dallas.....	10	3	8	11
Jim Kolfelt, Dallas.....	10	2	8	10
Mike O'Connell, Dallas.....	10	2	8	10
Jim Wiley, Tulsa.....	9	5	4	9

GP

	G	A	P
Bill Platt, Tulsa.....	9	5	4
Dan Hinton, Dallas.....	10	5	3
Duane Wylie, Dallas.....	10	2	6
Andy Spruce, Tulsa.....	9	1	7
Rick Bowness, Tulsa.....	9	4	3
Moe L'Abbe, Dallas.....	10	4	3
Rob Palmer, Dallas.....	10	4	3
Dan Gloor, Tulsa.....	9	4	3
Cam Botting, Tulsa.....	9	2	5
Leon Rochefort, Tulsa.....	9	2	5
Richard Mulhern, Tulsa.....	9	1	6

PLAYOFF SCORING BY TEAMS

TULSA

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Brad Gassoff.....	9	5	6	11	32
Jim Wiley.....	9	5	4	9	38
Bill Platt.....	9	5	4	9	21
Andy Spruce.....	9	1	7	8	8
Rick Bowness.....	9	4	3	7	12
Dan Gloor.....	9	4	3	7	0
Cam Botting.....	9	2	5	7	6
Leon Rochefort.....	9	2	5	7	6
Richard Mulhern.....	9	1	6	7	6
Glen Richardson.....	9	4	1	5	4
Larry McIntyre.....	9	1	3	4	6
Glen Surbey.....	9	1	2	3	9
Pat Ribble.....	9	0	3	3	10
Dan Seguin.....	9	1	1	2	2
Gregg Boddy.....	9	0	2	2	19
Bob Bilodeau.....	9	0	2	2	9
Bruce Bullock.....	6	0	0	0	0
Dan Brady.....	3	0	0	0	0

DALLAS

SALES					
	GP	G	A	P	PM
Kirk Bowman.....	10	3	8	11	4
Jim Kolfelt.....	10	2	8	10	12
Mike O'Connell.....	10	2	8	10	8
Dan Hinton.....	10	5	3	8	23
Duane Wylie.....	10	2	6	8	2
Moe L'Abbe.....	10	4	3	7	2
Rob Palmer.....	10	4	3	7	2
Randy Holt.....	8	3	2	5	51
Ian McKegney.....	10	3	2	5	0
Terry Smith.....	10	1	4	5	4
Michel Archambault.....	10	2	2	4	2
Yvon Bilodeau.....	10	1	3	4	6
Dave Logan.....	10	0	3	3	68
Gary Donaldson.....	6	2	0	2	0
Ted Bulley.....	7	0	1	1	4
Pierre Giroux.....	10	0	1	1	0
Mike Veisor.....	9	0	0	0	0
Bob Volpe.....	1	0	0	0	0

1975-76 Statistics

International League

Final Standings

NORTH DIVISION									
	P	W	L	T	F	A	PTS		
Saginaw	78	43	26	9	339	293	95		
Port Huron	78	36	31	11	304	291	83		
Flint	78	34	30	14	285	254	82		
Muskegon	78	34	31	13	260	238	81		
Kalamazoo	78	27	41	10	273	326	64		

SOUTH DIVISION

	P	W	L	T	F	A	PTS		
Dayton	78	47	21	10	340	240	104		
Fort Wayne	78	28	36	14	289	309	70		
Toledo	78	27	37	14	269	293	68		
Columbus	78	24	47	7	251	366	55		

Final Scoring Records

	GP	G	A	P	PM
Len Fontaine, Port Huron	74	53	59	112	57
Kirk Bowman, Flint	78	44	63	107	12
Mike Wanchuk, Kalamazoo	78	53	38	91	12
Brian Kinsella, Dayton	74	43	45	88	43
Terry McDougall, Fort Wayne	77	35	33	88	6
Sid Veysey, Fort Wayne	73	36	51	87	97

Goaling Records

	GP	GA	MP	SO	AVG.
Bob Smith, Day	1	0	1	0	0.00
Don Cutts, Musk	58	158	3356	5	2.82
Jim Pettie, Day	51	104	2178	5	2.86
Bernie Germain, Flint	45	130	2459	1	3.17
Rick St. Croix, Flint	42	118	2201	0	3.22
Gary Carr, Day	42	115	2089	0	3.30
Mario Lessard, Sag	62	187	3323	3	3.38
Tony Piroski, Tol-Ph-Kal	26	69	1197	0	3.46
Steve Miskiewicz, Musk	21	64	1078	2	3.56
Jim Watt, Kal	8	25	420	0	3.57
Pierre Chagnon, Tol	47	138	2316	1	3.58
Robbie Irons, FW	63	199	3321	1	3.60
Bill Oleschuk, PH	44	145	2417	0	3.60
Mike Ralph, PH	36	117	1838	2	3.82
Merlin Jenner, Flt-Kal	48	160	2420	2	3.97

Jim Weaver, Tol	2	5	74	0	4.06
Larry Hendrick, Tol	23	90	1319	0	4.09
Marcel Labelle, Kal-PH	10	40	578	0	4.15
Col-Musk					
Ted Tucker, Col-PH-Tol	24	73	1044	0	4.20
Garth Malarchuk	30	96	1364	1	4.22
Day-Sag-FW					

Rocky Menard, Col-Day	36	120	1673	0	4.30
Ty Langton, PH	3	12	164	0	4.39
Brad Sheldahl, FW	8	26	341	0	4.57
Bill Yeo, Columbus	55	211	2757	1	4.59
Dave Tataryn, Columbus	4	14	183	0	4.59
Harvey Stewart, Saginaw	27	105	1357	0	4.64
Mike Frawley, Kalamazoo	2	9	89	0	6.07

Turner Cup Playoffs

Finals

	P	W	L	F	A	PTS
Dayton	4	4	0	25	11	8
Port Huron	4	0	4	11	25	0

(Dayton wins best-of-seven series 4-0)

GAMES COMPLETED

Sun. April 25

Port Huron 2 at Dayton 7

Tue. April 27

Port Huron 4 at Dayton 8

Fri. April 30

Dayton 5 at Port Huron 3

Sat. May 1

Dayton 5 at Port Huron 2

Semi-Finals

	P	W	L	F	A	PTS
Port Huron	7	4	3	20	17	8
Saginaw	7	3	4	17	20	6

(Port Huron wins best-of-seven series 4-3)

	P	W	L	F	A	PTS
Dayton	5	4	1	34	20	8
Fort Wayne	5	1	4	20	34	2

(Dayton wins best-of-seven series 4-1)

Quarter-Finals

	P	W	L	F	A	PTS
Saginaw	5	4	1	24	11	8
Muskegon	5	1	4	11	24	2

(Saginaw wins best-of-seven series 4-1)

	P	W	L	F	A	PTS
Dayton	6	4	2	18	16	8

Kalamazoo	6	2	4	16	18	4
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(Dayton wins best-of-seven series 4-2)

	P	W	L	F	A	PTS
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Port Huron	4	4	0	20	11	8
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Flint	4	0	4	11	20	0
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(Port Huron wins best-of-seven series 4-0)

	P	W	L	F	A	PTS
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Fort Wayne	4	4	0	23	15	8
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Toledo	4	0	4	15	23	0
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(Fort Wayne wins best-of-seven series 4-0)

TOP PLAYOFF SCORERS

	GP	G	A	PTS
Stan Jonathan, Dayton	15	13	8	21
Paul Nicholson, Dayton	15	11	9	20
Len Fontaine, Port Huron	15	10	9	19
Steve Self, Dayton	15	10	8	18
Brian Kinsella, Dayton	15	10	7	17
Jim Bannatyne, Dayton	15	4	13	17
Dave Faulkner, Port Huron	15	4	13	17
Terry McDougall, Fort Wayne	9	5	11	16
Bill Riley, Dayton	15	6	10	16
Brian Stapleton, Dayton	15	7	8	15
Dan Newman, Port Huron	15	6	9	15
Tim Ampleford, Dayton	15	2	13	15

GOALING RECORDS

	GP	GA	MP	SO	AVG.
Mario Lessard, Sag	12	31	722	1	2.58
Jim Pettie, Day	15	43	921	1	2.80
Jim Watt, Kal	6	18	381	1	2.83
Bill Oleschuk, PH	9	24	443	0	3.25
Mike Ralph, PH	8	27	455	0	3.56
Bernie Germain, Fl	3	11	174	0	3.79
Don Cutts, Musk	4	19	240	0	4.75
Marcel Labelle, Musk	1	5	60	0	5.00
Ted Tucker, Tol	1	5	60	0	5.00
Robbie Irons, FW	9	49	540	0	5.44
Pierre Chagnon, Tol	3	17	177	0	5.76

North American League

Final Standings

EAST DIVISION									
	P	W	L	T	F	A	PTS		
Beauce	74	54	18	2	462	306	110		
Syracuse	74	38	33	3	284	278	79		
Mohawk Valley	74	30	40	4	306	354	64		
* Cape Cod	52	24	25	3	244	227	51		
Maine	74	18	55	1	295	450	37		

WEST DIVISION

	P	W	L	T	F	A	PTS		
Johnstown	74	47	25	2	346	257	96		
Philadelphia	74	45	29	0	373	319	90		
Erie	74	37	36	1	310	298	75		
Buffalo	74	30	44	0	323	375	60		
Binghamton	74	27	45	2	258	337	56		

(*—withdrew from league.)

PLAYOFF FINALS

	P	W	L	F	A	PTS
Philadelphia	6	4	2	34	30	8
Beauce	6	2	4	30	34	4

(Philadelphia wins best-of-seven series 4-2)

SEMI-FINALS

	P	W	L	F	A	PTS
Beauce	4	4	0	27	19	8
Syracuse	4	0	4	19	27	0

(Beauce wins best-of-seven series 4-0)

	P	W	L	F	A	PTS
Philadelphia	5	4	1	33	28	8
Johnstown	5	1	4	28	33	2

(Philadelphia wins best-of-seven series 4-1)

QUARTER-FINALS

	P	W	L	F	A	PTS
Beauce	4	3	1	26	19	6
Maine	4	1	3	19	26	2

(Beauce wins best-of-five series 3-1)

	P	W	L	F	A	PTS
Syracuse	4	3	1	20	11	6
Mohawk Valley	4	1	3	11	20	2

(Syracuse wins best-of-seven series 3-1)

	P	W	L	F	A	PTS
Johnstown	5	3	2	18	14	6
Buffalo	5	2	3	14	18	4

(Johnstown wins best-of-seven series 3-2)

	P	W	L	F	A	PTS
Philadelphia	5	3	2	28	24	6
Erie	5	2	3	24	28	4

(Philadelphia wins best-of-five series 3-2)

TOP PLAYOFF SCORERS

	GP	G	A	PTS
Bob Collyard, Philadelphia	16	12	25	37
Alain Caron, Beauce	14	21	13	34
Gordie Brooks, Philadelphia	16	15	17	32
Luc Simard, Beauce	14	12	19	31
Joe Hardy, Beauce	14	4	24	28
Denis Patry, Philadelphia	16	11	27	
Daniel Beaulieu, Beauce	14	8	19	27
Michel Plante, Philadelphia	16	7	20	27
Howie Heggedal, Philadelphia	16	7	14	21
Richard Campeau, Philadelphia	16	5	16	21
Randy Osburn, Philadelphia	16	11	8	19
Richard Grenier, Beauce	12	14	4	18
Mike Penasse, Philadelphia	16	11	6	16
Mark Izzard, Syracuse	8	9	6	15

PLAYOFF GOALING

	GP	MIN	GA	SO	AVG.
Mario Vien, Buff	3	97	6	0	3.68
Jim Makey, Buff	3	142	11	0	4.64
Bil Cheropita, Syr	3	170	7	0	2.46
Jim Weaver, Syr	5	272	24	0	5.29
Norm Tesluck, Syr	1	60	6	0	6.00
Randy Borchell, MV	1	15	1	0	3.94
Jim Park, MV	4	244	19	0	4.66
Roger Kosar, Pha	7	324	23	0	4.26
Gaye Cooley, Pha	8	470	39	0	4.97
Rejean Lemelin, Pha	3	171	15	0	5.26
Yves Archambault, Bea	11	664	53	0	4.78
John Voss, Bea	4	180	18	0	5.99
Lou Levasseur, John	5	263	19	0	4.32
Ron Docken, John	5	280	27	0	5.78
Lynn Zimmerman, Erie	5	280	24	0	5.14
Andre Lepage, Erie	1	20	3	0	9.00
Peter Donnelly, ME	4	240	25	0	6.25

TOP LEAGUE SCORERS

	GP	G	A	PTS
Joe Hardy, Beauce	72	60	148	208
Richard Grenier, Beauce	73	77	83	160
Luc Simard, Beauce	70	73	76	149
Alain Caron, Beauce	73	78	59	137
Bob Collyard, Philadelphia	73	45	84	129
Robbie Neale, Erie	68	50	69	119
Michel Plante, Philadelphia	73	52	66	118
Paul Larose, Maine	71	41	73	114
Bobby Jones, Mohawk Valley	69	39	70	109
Doug Brindley, Syracuse	70	43	58	101
Larry Gould, Buffalo	71	32	68	100
Rod Bloomfield, Binghamton	74	37	59	96
Henry Taylor, Johnstown	69	50	43	93
Gordie Brooks, Philadelphia	66	39	54	93

1975-76 Southern Hockey League

FINAL STANDINGS

	P	W	L	T	F	A	Pts
Charlotte	72	42	20	10	302	206	94
Hampton	72	33	23	16	262	234	82
Win-Salem	72	30	29	13	252	251	73
Roanoke	72	29	28	15	239	238	73
Tidewater	72	24	34	14	230	260	62
Greensboro	72	18	42	12	221	317	48

PLAYOFF FINALS

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Charlotte	5	4	1	21	10	8
Hampton	5	1	4	10	21	2

(Charlotte wins best-of-seven series 4-1)

Sun. March 21

Hampton 2 at Charlotte 5

Tue. March 23

Hampton 2 at Charlotte 3

Wed. March 24

Charlotte 1 at Hampton 5

Fri. March 26

Charlotte 4 at Hampton 1

Sat. March 27

Hampton 0 at Charlotte 8

SEMI-FINALS

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Charlotte	6	4	2	14	11	8
Roanoke	6	2	4	11	14	4

(Charlotte wins best-of-seven series 4-2)

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Hampton	4	4	0	23	13	8
Winston-Salem	4	0	4	13	23	0

(Hampton wins best-of-seven series 4-0)

TOP PLAYOFF SCORERS

	GP	G	A	Pts
Neil Korzack, Charlotte	11	5	8	13
Steve Andruscik, Hampton	9	6	5	11
Pat Donnelly, Hampton	8	4	6	10
Bob Smulders, Charlotte	10	3	5	8
Frank Golembosky, Charlotte	11	3	5	8
Don O'Donohue, Hampton	9	2	6	8
Ron Serafini, Hampton	9	1	7	8
Lorrie Rombough, Hampton	9	4	3	7
Mike Rouleau, Charlotte	11	2	5	7
Barry Burnett, Charlotte	11	1	6	7
Wayne Chrysler, Charlotte	11	4	2	6
Dick Spanbauer, Hampton	9	3	3	6
Jack Surbey, Charlotte	10	3	3	6
Mike Keeler, Charlotte	11	3	3	6
Michel Boudreau, Hampton	9	2	4	6
Jack Wells, Charlotte	11	2	4	6
Wayne Mosdell, Hampton	8	0	6	6
Terry Martin, Charlotte	9	2	3	5
Art Stratton, Hampton	9	2	3	5
Don Brennan, Charlotte	11	2	3	5
Larry Billows, Hampton	4	1	4	5

PLAYOFF GOALING

	GP	Min	GA	SO	Avg
Robert Sauve, Cha.	7	420	10	2	1.43
Rick Lemay, Roa.	3	159	4	0	1.51
Gaye Cooley, Cha.	4	240	11	1	2.75
Brian Cousineau, Roa.	4	199	10	1	3.02
Rick Coutu, Ham.	4	191	11	0	3.46
Norm Lapointe, Ham.	7	341	23	0	3.72
Bob Champoux, Win.	4	214	18	0	5.05
Don Sullivan, Win.	1	46	5	0	6.52

TOP LEAGUE SCORERS

	GP	G	A	P
John Campbell, Win-Salem	72	33	59	92
Yvon Dupuis, Charlotte	72	52	39	91
Ken Gassoff, Win-Salem	60	36	49	85
Wally Sprange, Greensboro	70	22	59	81
Art Stratton, Hampton	70	14	64	78
Neil Korzack, Charlotte	72	46	31	77
John Raynek, Roanoke	70	35	40	75
Bob Smulders, Charlotte	72	22	46	68
Pat Donnelly, Hampton	47	28	39	67
Wayne Chrysler, Charlotte	71	24	42	66

GOALING RECORDS

	GP	Min	GA	SO	Avg
Robert Sauve	17	979	36	2	2.21
Gaye Cooley	47	2703	127	5	2.82
Brian Cousineau	12	634	38	1	3.60
Charlotte Total	72	4320	206	8	2.86

	GP	Min	GA	SO	Avg
Norm Lapointe	33	1917	86	1	2.69
John Kiely	13	719	41	1	3.42
Rich Coutu	29	1676	105	3	3.76
Hampton Total	72	4320	234	5	3.25


	GP	Min	GA	SO	Avg
Ed Humphreys	20	1132	48	3	2.54
Joe Junkin	29	1686	97	1	3.45
Rick Lemay	17	963	56	2	3.49
Brian Cousineau	6	318	19	1	3.58
Ron Marlow	3	158	10	0	3.80
Roanoke Total	72	4320	238	6	3.31

	GP	Min	GA	SO	Avg
Jim Watt	55	3147	172	1	3.28
Sam Clegg	3	140	9	0	3.86
Brian Cousineau	9	527	34	0	3.87
Joe Junkin	7	390	30	0	4.62
Randy Burchell	1	60	5	0	5.00
Ron Clarke	3	48	4	0	5.00
Tidewater Total	72	4320	260	1	3.61


	GP	Min	GA	SO	Avg
Mike Corcoran	11	501	29	0	3.47
John Voss	27	1500	99	1	3.96
Kevin Neville	39	1911	127	0	3.99
Marcel Labelle	4	168	24	0	8.57
Brian Langille	1	49	8	0	10.97
Wayne Welch	2	120	23	0	11.50
Greensboro Total	72	4320	317	1	4.40

	GP	Min	GA	SO	Avg
Don Sullivan	27	1528	79	0	3.10
Bob Champoux	47	2770	161	0	3.49
Bob Smith	1	0	0	0	0
Winston Total	72	4320	251	0	3.49


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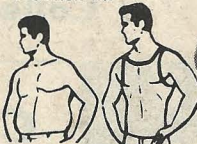
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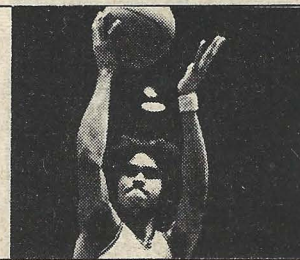
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MATCHUPS - ROSTERS - STATISTICS - PAST RESULTS - ANALYSIS									
HOUSTON OILERS					PITTSBURGH STEELERS				
3-1 O.A. PHILLIPS Power Rating: 121					2-1 CHUCK NOLL Power Rating: 139				
TEAM					TEAM				
WR CB DE LB TE QB RB FB WR CB DE LB TE QB RB FB					WR CB DE LB TE QB RB FB WR CB DE LB TE QB RB FB				
ROSTERS					ROSTERS				
LOG OF RESULTS					LOG OF RESULTS				
Capsule Summary- Previous Games					Capsule Summary- Previous Games				
HOUSTON GAME No. 1					PITTSBURGH GAME No. 1				
New England 0 0 0 0-0 Houston 28 100 1st Downs 33-16 Pass yds 53 Rush yds 28 Punts 12-24-1 Fum lost 6-37-1 Pen yds 6-1 Pen yds 5-37-1					Pittsburgh 10 10 14-37 San Diego 0 0 0 0-0 1st Downs 24 Pass yds 45-205 Rush yds 238 Punts 12-23-3 Fum lost 2-38-6 Pen yds 4-31-5				
Game No. 1 Houston's Germany recovered and that was all in the opening moments, raced 48 yds for TD game. Oilers outperformed and outplayed the Browns in all categories by New England, but the Oilers killed the Browns' offense.					Game No. 1 Steelers scored four of first five times they had ball and enjoyed 2nd straight opening-day shout, 37-0. Bradshaw hit 75% passing to nine different receivers, and Harris led rushing attack which tallied over 200 yds for well-balanced offense.				
HOUSTON GAME No. 2					PITTSBURGH GAME No. 2				
San Diego 7 10 3 12-33 Houston 14 100 1st Downs 12 Pass yds 114 Rush yds 25-60 Punts 12-26-1 Fum lost 4-41-2 Pen yds 4-41-2					Buffalo 0 10 13 7-30 Pittsburgh 10 10 14-37 1st Downs 24 Pass yds 45-205 Rush yds 238 Punts 12-23-3 Fum lost 2-38-6 Pen yds 4-31-5				
Game No. 2 Strong running, good passing, and all-around head-up play contributed equally to Oilers' victory over San Diego. Oilers ding, almost just for against pass just for 14 yds. Houston plagued with penalties.					Game No. 2 Steelers defense allowed Simpson 227 yds rushing, and Steelers offense had live costly turnovers as Pitt lost 30-21. Bills first two scores came on fumble. Backup QB Gilliam brought Steelers back late, but not enough.				
HOUSTON GAME No. 3					PITTSBURGH GAME No. 3				
Cincinnati 0 0 0 0-0 Houston 18 100 1st Downs 18 Pass yds 37-85 Rush yds 116 Punts 12-21-0 Fum lost 4-41-2 Pen yds 4-41-2					Cleveland 0 0 0 0-0 Pittsburgh 10 10 14-37 1st Downs 24 Pass yds 45-205 Rush yds 238 Punts 12-23-3 Fum lost 2-38-6 Pen yds 4-31-5				
Game No. 3 Bills' Johnson's sensational return almost carried Oilers to victory. But title help came from rest of offense as Houston gained only 83 yds rushing and 93 aerial yds. Houston defense good against weak rush of Cin- cy, but vs arm of Anderson.					Game No. 3 Steelers got 2nd straight win in Cleveland for 1st time ever, and had best game there in 25 years, beating Browns, 42-6. Gilliam & Bradshaw established team game record by com- pleting 75% of passes as offense surpassed 500-yard mark for 1st time since Noll's first year.				
HOUSTON GAME No. 4					PITTSBURGH GAME No. 4				
Cleveland 0 0 0 0-0 Houston 10 100 1st Downs 10 Pass yds 46-250 Rush yds 118 Punts 12-21-0 Fum lost 3-40-1 Pen yds 6-55-4					Denver 0 0 0 0-0 Pittsburgh 10 10 14-37 1st Downs 24 Pass yds 45-205 Rush yds 238 Punts 12-23-3 Fum lost 2-38-6 Pen yds 4-31-5				
Game No. 4 Johnson's return of 2nd-half opening kickoff broke spirit of Browns. Charged-up Oilers winning game very strong passing game, fair strong passing adequate defense, fair Cleveland beat itself with 7 downs.					Game No. 4 On strength of two sensational and one reception by Lynn 20-9 Pitt was able to sit on 17. 3 lead after Broncos lost Orls Armstrong and Paul Smith little offense Broncos had				

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